martlet the

january 13th, 2000 flying without feet for 52 years volume 52, issue 19

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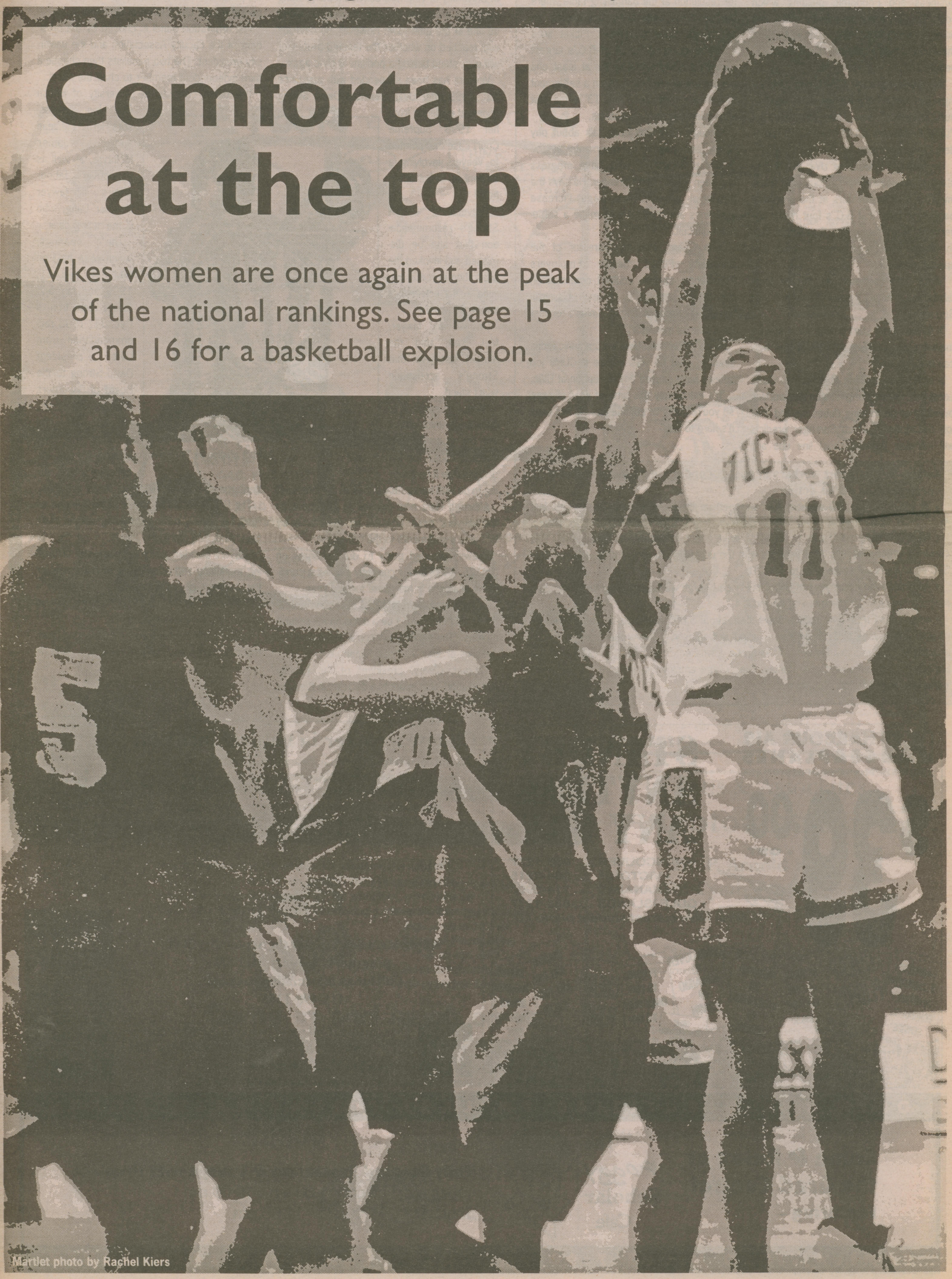
Vikes women are once again at the peak of the national rankings. See page 15 and 16 for a basketball explosion.



Martlet photo by Rachel Kiers

CUPE begins rotating strikes

BY PATTI EDGAR

As students return to classes the threat of a campus-wide strike is still looming over UVic.

Early Wednesday morning, Jan. 12, support staff put picket lines up around the Business and Economic Building which hosts the university president's office and other administrative offices. And at 10 a.m. the workers held a rally which attracted 300 people.

"We are trying to hit non-classroom buildings this week because we don't want to hurt students," said Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 951 president Doug Sprenger.

The two CUPE locals at UVic decided to start rotating strikes on campus after learning from their negotiators at the provincial bargaining table that B.C.'s four major universities aren't supporting the union's idea to ask the Ministry of Labour to bring in a special mediator.

"We've had mediators at all the local tables and it hasn't gotten anywhere," said Sprenger.

"If [universities] start asking for a special mediator and CUPE is asking for one how can they say no?"

In addition to rotating strikes, 700 CUPE Local 951 workers at UVic won't be working overtime or performing duties beyond their job descriptions, which Sprenger predicts will increase back-to-school line ups and slow down services such as tuition fee payment processing.

CUPE locals at UVic, the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and the University of Northern British Columbia have set Jan. 19 as the deadline for resolution at the bargaining table where they've been collectively negotiating an agreement since November. Picket lines could be going up on all of B.C.'s largest campuses simultaneously for at least one day if support staff don't reach a settlement with their universities. Jan. 13 is the last scheduled day for negotiations.

Although there has been talk about pay equity and benefit improvements at the provincial bargaining table, little progress has been made, said Sprenger. He says the provincial government's wage increase guidelines are continuing to make a settlement difficult.

Dean Goard, executive director of the University Public Sector Employers Association, said he couldn't comment on negotiations with CUPE. However, his organization is contemplating the union's request for a special mediator.

Bruce Kilpatrick, UVic's communications director, said he was unsure if CUPE job actions have caused any disruption at UVic.

"It's extra busy this time of year anyway, so you're going to get line ups. At this point it's hard to tell."

Across B.C. support workers in post-secondary institutions are also contemplating strike action.

- At UBC about 3,000 support staff wrapped up three days of rotating pickets last week. The pickets went up around the bookstore, administration buildings and the library.
- At SFU, support staff vote in favour of strike action in December. Although CUPE is currently negotiating essential services with the university, Sprenger says it is possible SFU employees will strike prior to Jan. 20.
- Administration employees at UNBC in Prince George will be picketing the university's main campus just for the morning on Jan. 14.
- Independent from university support staff, about 3,000 non-teaching and non-administration employees at 11 colleges — including Camosun — have been bargaining collectively for nine months. However, talks broke down Dec. 5, according to CUPE National Servicing Representative Donn Stanley. The college employees demands include wage increases, improved job security and benefits.

Convicted sociology professor still fighting to keep her tenure

BY JORGE BARRERA

Does she stay or does she go?

Last Friday, on the 12th floor of the Harbour Towers Hotel, the arbitration hearing on the fate of University of Victoria's convicted pot-growing sociology professor Dr. Jean Veevers wrapped up late in the afternoon. However, no decision was reached on whether the tenured professor will ever stand behind a podium at UVic again.

Veevers has been suspended with pay since Jan. 1999 after UVic president David Strong reviewed evidence from her 1998 Supreme Court case that pointed to Veevers involving a student in illegal activities.

Veever's fought Strong's recommendation that she be dismissed and invoked the arbitration process outlined in the university's tenure document.

Dr. Veevers' lawyer, Mel Hunt, told *the Martlet* last year that Strong's accusation won't stand.

"With respect to [Veevers'] involvement with the student, this is not just cause for her dismissal as it had nothing to do with her normal duties as a professor."

Martlet graphic by Tim Harvey

Although Hunt now refuses to comment on the Veevers' case, he says he still stands by last year's comments to the newspaper.

Veevers pleaded guilty to drug charges on Oct. 26, 1998 and is currently serving a conditional sentence in her home for one year.

Bruce Kilpatrick, director of UVic communications, said there won't be a decision for several months. "The decision will come well before the deadline of June 30," said Kilpatrick.

Thomas Cleary, president of the Faculty Association, also expects a decision in the near future. "Everything has been done according to what the tenure document says."

If the panel decides there is no just cause for dismissal, Veevers will return to the university. If the panel decides against Veevers, the case will go before the UVic Board of Governors.

The arbitration panel is chosen by the president of the Faculty Association and the university president. The two panelists then choose a third independent member to chair the panel.

The panel consists of University of British Columbia professors Herbert Mclean and James McIntyre, as well as Vancouver labour affairs lawyer Heather Lang, who is the acting chair.

The hearings, which were held on Aug. 10 and 11, 1999, and Jan. 5-7, 2000, stem from a Dec. 11, 1998 recommendation from UVic president David Strong to the Board of Governors that Veevers be dismissed on the grounds that she offered to pay the tuition of a UVic student in exchange for help with illegal activities.

The RCMP raided Veevers' Saanich home on April 18, 1997, seizing 8.6 kilograms of marijuana and 122 marijuana plants.

Veevers pleaded guilty to charges of cultivating marijuana and possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking. She was given a $15,000 fine, 60 hours of community work and a year-long conditional sentence.

Veevers will continue to be suspended from teaching with pay until a final decision is reached.

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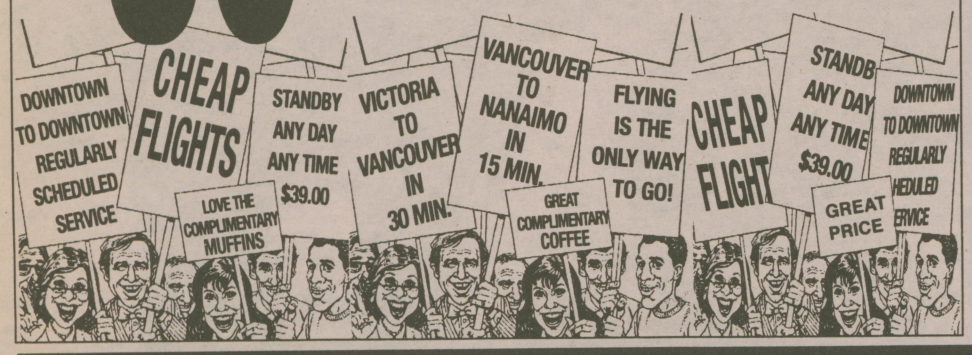
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Scholarships confuse students

BY DAVE HAZZAN

If you received a Millennium Scholarship and you're from B.C., be careful where you spend it. That's the same money as your standard third and fourth year grant. It's not extra cash.

Many third and fourth year students received letters from the Millennium Scholarship Fund – an autonomous foundation created by the federal government – just before Christmas, telling them they had been awarded between $2,000 and $4,000. But that money was already awarded to them, through the British Columbia Grants Program.

Confused? So are the recipients.

"I had heard of the Millennium Scholarship Fund when I was applying for my B.C. loan," said Beth Duncan, a third year humanities student at UVic. "In the loan package, it said I was applying for a loan, a grant and a scholarship."

In September, Duncan found she got the loan and the grant. But there wasn't a word on the scholarship until Dec. 22.

"I got this letter from the Millennium Scholarship Fund, and it said I had been awarded $3,400 or so. So I said 'great, woo-hoo, I got all this money!'"

What the Millennium Scholarship Fund didn't tell Duncan was that the scholarship money was the exact same money as her grant. After doing a bit of research, Duncan found out there was no extra money — just what she had known about since September.

When asked whether students had been complaining about the delivery of the program, federal Treasury Board Finance Assistant Kim Rapagna, chuckled heartily. "There are too many [complaints] to mention."

"Each province signed onto the program with individual ideas," said Rapagna. "It's done within provincial parameters."

There are too many complaints to mention

The Millennium Scholarship Fund was set up by the Federal Government in 1998 to address rising student debts. And although the money is from Ottawa, it's administered by the provinces.

A form letter sent by the Millennium Scholarship Fund to each recipient does not once mention that the money had already been awarded, or is administered through a provincial grants program.

The B.C. government asked that the Millennium Scholarship Fund be used to fund their third and fourth year grants, to complement the first and second year grants awarded by the province.

"The letter seems to say you're getting a Millennium Scholarship, in addition to what you normally get from the B.C. government," said University of Victoria Student Society director of finance Summer McFayden.

As a result, recipients think they're getting a bonus couple of thousand bucks, when they're not getting anything they didn't know about before.

McFayden, and most people in the UVSS and the Canadian Federation of Students, believe both students and tax payers would have been better served by a national program of needs-based grants, rather than the fund, which according to McFayden is "full of red tape and heavy on bureaucracy."

Both McFayden and Duncan believe a lot of money is wasted in the program, especially on Public Relations.

"They sent this letter out to toot their horn about the fund, but it's confused tons of people," McFayden said. She also said the UVSS has received more than a few phone calls from confused or broke Millennium Scholarship recipients.

Duncan feels she was lucky, in that she didn't spend any extra money, thinking she was $3,500 richer. But she knows others who weren't so thrifty.

"Tons of people I know got this letter, just before Christmas, and spent the money."

A spokesperson from the B.C. Ministry of Advanced Education did not return phone calls.

Complaints launched against protester

BY PATTI EDGAR

Two dozen people have taken complaints to UVic's harassment office about an anti-First Nations treaty protester on campus.

The complaints, from both students and faculty, means a formal investigation has been launched into whether Lorenzo Bouchard's leafleting and placard wearing is spreading hate on campus.

Last semester, a professor complained about Bouchard's presence in a letter to UVic president David Strong and the University of Victoria Students' Society banned Bouchard from the Student Union Building.

The investigation into the harassment complaints is still at a preliminary stage, says Bruce Kilpatrick, UVic's director of communications. Susan Shaw, the director of the Office for the Prevention of Discrimination and Harassment, can't comment on the case.

The formal complaints about Bouchard were made in December. On Jan. 6, Shaw met with Bouchard and his lawyer to outline the complaints. She's now waiting to receive a response to the allegations from Bouchard.

"If [Shaw] decides she has jurisdiction and there is a basis on which to proceed she'll attempt to resolve the issue informally. If that doesn't work, the formal process will kick into gear," said Kilpatrick.

The complaints against Bouchard have been made under a section of UVic's harassment policy that defines harassment as "abusive, unfair, or demeaning treatment of a person or group of persons that has the effect or purpose of unreasonably interfering with a person's or group's status or performance or creating a hostile or intimidating working or educational environment."

Although Bouchard is not a student, the policy applies to visitors, as well as staff and students, says Kilpatrick.

Bouchard was not available for comment. However, in an interview with *the Martlet* in October, he said his views are based on opinion, not hate. He added that if the university asked him to leave, he would consider a lawsuit.

on the spot

BY KRISTIN FRONEMAN

Did you get a Millennium Scholarship? Did the federal government's letter confuse you?

sarah metzgner
2nd year environmental studies

"Yes. I applied for a loan and I think it was the amounts that confused me. It was confusing whether there were two amounts or just one."

bruce farquhar
2nd year anthropology

"No, I didn't get one. I knew someone who was supposed to get a $3,500 grant then they got a thing saying 'Congrats, you've won a $3,500 scholarship' and they thought they were going to get both."

byron plant
4th year history

"Yes. On first reading, I thought I was special – free money – awesome. I took it as good news. The letter was confusing however."

laurie mccormick
4th year biology/anthropology

"My boyfriend did. He thought it was confusing. He thought he got more money, the loan and a grant. We read about it in the paper and that clarifies it for us."

glen allen
mba

"No, I didn't. I know nothing about the scholarship. During my undergrad nine years ago, I had about $14,000 in loans and paid back the balance at the time. $3,500 would have been great. I can empathize with the students who were confused – but for students who graduated last year, they are expected to pay everything back.

UVSS
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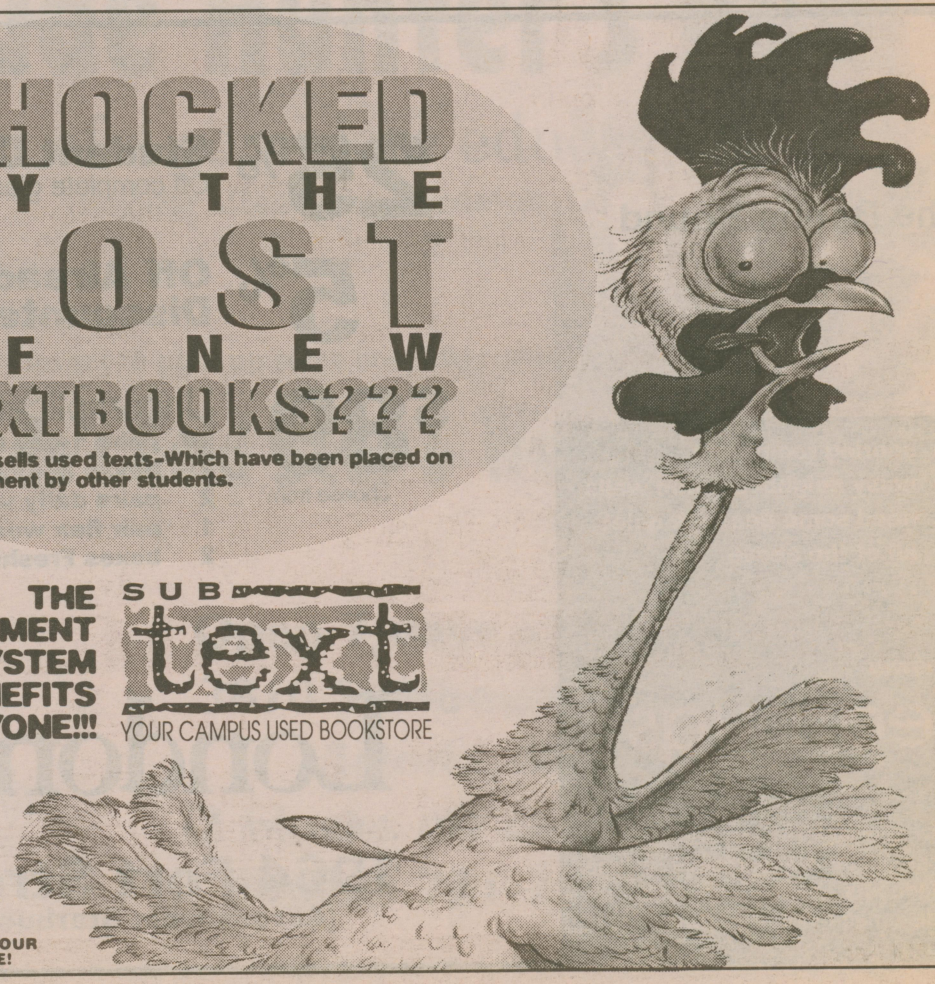

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Students consider strike action

BY BEN ISITT

Later this month, UVic students will get the chance to decide whether or not they want to form picket lines around campus.

The University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) board has decided to hold a strike vote from Jan. 24 to Jan. 26, to learn if students want to walk out of class Feb. 2, as part of the Canadian Federation of Students' (CFS) Access 2000 campaign.

The student group's campaign demands include a four-year national grant system, a restoration of federal funding to pre-1995 levels and tuition fee reduction to make post-secondary education more accessible.

"There's a popular misconception that the [provincial government's] tuition fee freeze is responsible for the declining quality of education," said Kari Worton, UVSS director of academics. "Students know better. We realize that it is because of the federal funding cuts."

If a random survey of students by the *Martlet* last semester is any indication, most students support the idea of a tuition fee reduction, which could lend itself to a favourable strike vote.

"In an ideal situation universities would be run entirely on government funding," said Ben Wafer, a fourth year history major.

"Education is essential. If you want to avoid problems like poverty, you have to educate people."

Some British Columbians disagree with Wafer's vision of universal post-secondary education.

The Fraser Institute, a right-wing, free market lobby group based in Vancouver, has called on the province to "deregulate tuition fees and allow them to rise from 22 per cent to 30 per cent of the actual cost of the education provided." In its policy paper on Fixing Education in B.C., the Institute insists "this is a matter of equity."

In an August 1998 press release issued by the B.C. Chamber of Commerce, Dr. John Waterhouse, dean of Business Administration at Simon Fraser University, called for an end to the freeze.

"Tuition must be allowed to increase," Dr. Waterhouse wrote. "Our programs need to be properly funded so that we can increase the number and quality of spaces available. The government must learn that they are harming, not helping students with their misguided policy of frozen tuition."

Some students disagree with the private sector's push to increase the cost of post-secondary education.

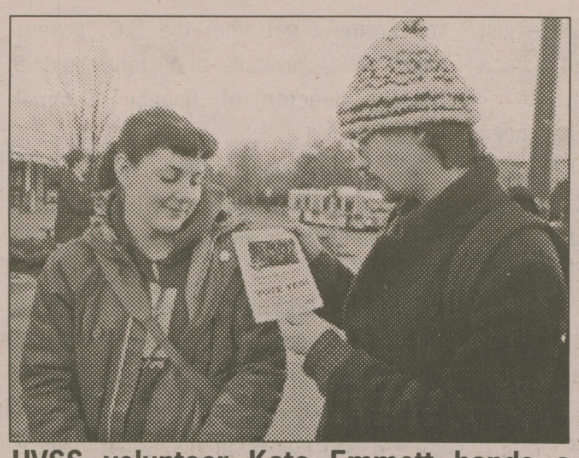
"In Denmark and the rest of Scandinavia, a university education is free [because it is] state-funded," said Jeremy Bain, a third year social work student. "That would be awesome. No government or company wants to bite the bullet for the few years we're in school."

While B.C.'s government has held the line on tuition in the face of deep funding cuts from the federal government, other provinces have hiked tuition, leaving some UVic students to conclude that they are lucky and shouldn't complain.

"I don't think there's anything that needs to be changed as long as [tuition] doesn't go up," said Dustin Young, a first year business student.

Cheralyn Coles, a fourth year anthropology major, agrees. "It would be nice if tuition was reduced," said Coles, "But it could be a lot higher."

Saul Brown began his post-secondary education last year at York University in Toronto. Now he is at UVic working on a geography degree.



UVSS volunteer Kate Emmett hands a pamphlet to fourth year anthropology student Kierin MacKenzie.

Martlet photo by Kristin Froneman

"I was at school in Ontario last year and I paid over $4,000 in tuition," said Brown. "Here I'm paying $1,500 less. It's reasonable how it is here. I'm satisfied."

Even so, Brown feels "if someone can't afford tuition it should be on a sliding scale so they can go to university."

Out of the 29 leading industrialized nations in the world, 17 do not charge tuition for post-secondary education. Only two countries – the United States and Japan – charge higher fees than Canada.

For many students, high tuition fees and the absence of a national grant system means an average $25,000 debt upon completing university.

Kristin Ziebart just completed her philosophy degree at UVic amidst a mountain of debt. She ended up moving to Korea to teach English, where "virtually everyone [she] worked with was a Canadian student with a massive student loan."

"Education should be free for everyone," Ziebart said.

"It is in the best interests of society as a whole to have an educated population."

Students wishing to launch a campaign for or against the Feb. 2 strike should contact the UVSS electoral office at 472-4937 by Jan. 14.

Conference discusses fate of Island's forests

BY TIMOTHY HARVEY

Vancouver Island's old-growth forests will soon be falling in a whole new way — under the spotlight.

On Jan. 22, the Student Union Building will host an Ancient Forest Conference, featuring speakers and workshops on the future of Ancient Forests on Vancouver Island.

A theme of the event will be a major reform of how land rights and use are designated. Andrew MacKinnon, a forest ecologist with the Ministry of Forests, feels that these reforms start with forest tenure.

"Everybody's looking at tenure reform," said MacKinnon. "The question is how, not whether this will take place. Different people have different visions, from Greenpeace to the Council of Forest Land."

Martlet graphic by Tim Harvey

Ken Wu, a local campaigner with the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, would like to see a biologically-grounded protected land network to ensure survival of ancient forest-reliant biodiversity.

"What's needed are large, connected protected areas so extinction does not occur in isolated parks, and all biodiversity can persist over the long term."

Wu added that a biologically insufficient six per cent of Vancouver Island's low-elevation forests are protected, leaving 94 per cent available to logging companies. Yet in spite of the danger local forests are in, interest in protecting them is at a low.

"Until 1994 there was a passion and widespread movement for Vancouver Island's rainforests. We want to ignite a rainforest revival," said Wu.

MacKinnon echos the sentiments of Wu in stating his belief that forest use should be scientifically grounded.

"The approach that has been taken on the central coast, where the Sierra Club created a conservation-based design is interesting, and different from anything we've seen done in B.C.," he said, adding that he thinks we could still do a better job on Vancouver Island.

UVic Student Leah Walberg is organizing the event. She is driven by an urge to communicate the truth about what is happening in Vancouver Island's forests.

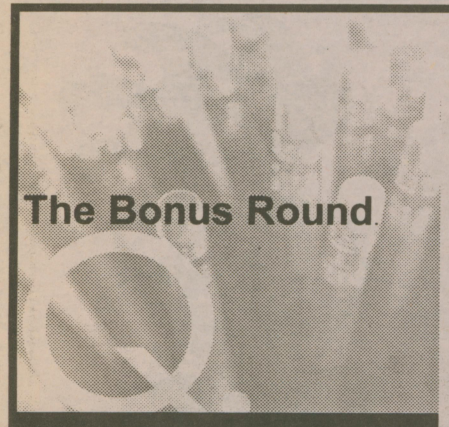
"There has been a lot of talk about logging having gotten much better, but the fact is, the rate of cut is higher than ever," said Walberg. "No matter how you cut, if you're cutting too much, you're sacrificing the forest."

She believes unless there is forestry reform, communities will be left without futures when corporate mills close down.

Speakers and workshops will cover subjects ranging from sacred ecology to community-based eco-forestry. Political forces from globalism to First Nations land claims will be discussed at the low-cost event which will take place between 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., with a break for a vegan lunch.

According to Walberg, the speakers are "among the best in their fields." She is optimistic about the effect they will have on conference participants.

"We're hoping to spread political awareness about the issues and empower participants to join, or initiate their own, campaigns."



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YOUTH CHALLENGE INTERNATIONAL

Water efficiency assessed

BY TASHA MARSDEN

You may be standing in a lab or sitting on a toilet seat. Either way, you could come across members of Water Efficiency Assessment (WEA) as they collect data.

Dion Whyte, a fourth year geography student and assessment coordinator, started assessing campus buildings last semester. Along with volunteers from WEA's parent organization – the student-run University of Victoria Sustainability Project (UVSP) – Whyte is counting water fixtures and identifying areas with "conservation potential."

By the end of the academic school year, he will draft a report including recommendations for the university's future water use.

UVic's water supply is currently fed through approximately 12 connected water mains from the municipality of Saanich, making it impossible to measure water use at each building.

"The water distribution system on this campus is whacked-out and you can't determine exactly where things are being used."

Whyte said his job would be a lot easier if the university had outfitted buildings with independent metering systems, like newer buildings such as the Student Union Building and Cluster residences.

"We are walking in the dark," he said. "We have to come up with much more convoluted measures, which obviously are going to be less accurate for estimating how much water is being used in any given area."

*In the event that one of the mains sus-*tains damage, the piping system is set up so that water can still be accessed through one of the other points.

"I'm not a professional and I don't want to make any real judgment calls, but it seems to me it's a bit of an overkill," said Whyte. "There's redundancy on top of redundancy."

UVic's Facilities Management is responsible for the installation and maintenance of water fixtures. Bill Freethey, head of the Plumbing Shop, said his workers are continually doing service checks and depend on members of the campus community to inform them of breakdowns.

The department has upgraded the on-campus irrigation system with some of the most sophisticated equipment on the market, including instant soil moisture monitors. And the entire campus has also been retrofitted with motion-activated flush urinals. Ultra low flush toilets, which use up to a third of the water of regular flush tank toilets, have also been installed in several campus locations on a trial basis.

Facilities Management claims that the largest draw on UVic's water supply is likely domestic water use in the UVic residences.

Martlet photo by Kristin Froneman

There is, however, room for improvement and Whyte is trying to come up with recommendations that are practical as well as economically feasible. He would like to see Facilities Management conduct a leak protection pressure test to check for underground leaks.

"One of the big losses in an institution like this, where there is older piping, is leaks," said Whyte.

As a result of the assessment, workers are busy installing 100 donated toilet flappers – simple devices that save 15-20 per cent of flush water – in all of the campus' flush tank toilets.

A local consulting company and the Capital Region District are willing to donate enough flappers to fit the remaining 400 toilets in residence and on-campus housing, but Housing Services administrator Leigh Andersen wants to be sure *that savings will cover labour costs.*

"We'd like to think that we're doing this from an environmental perspective," said Whyte, "But when you're dealing with an institution whose goal is to make money then you have to put it in terms of dollars and cents."

Because of limited funding, certain areas of the university can't afford water-saving equipment. Students informed WEA volunteers that labs have been using water vacuum pumps for chemical filtration.

Senior chemistry lab instructor Dr. Dave Berry said the department has other pumps which use less water, but they have their own inherent problems. Pumps which recirculate water collect solvent, "stinking up the lab," and oil-less vacuum pumps are more expensive and require more maintenance.

"The long-term solution is that you would choose to purchase pumps which aren't so dependent on water," said Berry. "But it's not practical or feasible to completely move away from them."

However the university has reduced the number of "once-through" systems which dispose of water after a one-time use, said Berry. Facilities Management is discussing whether a larger scale recirculating system could be installed in the aquatic research centre, a large consumer of campus water resources.

Whyte said it is difficult to make recommendations to university departments which depend on a level of water usage for their research.

"It's hard to go in there as an auxiliary person, trying to employ a water conservation plan, and tell these researchers doing high level research – using equipment that has cost the university tons of money – that they have to start skimping on the amount of water that they can use," said Whyte.

While he wants to include several alternative conservation measures, Whyte said he realizes there's a lot of different agendas at work. He is trying not to step on too many toes so that the project may continue on in the future.

"We don't want this to be a one-time research project where we delve into what's happening and then it's stopped and gets shelved," he said. "It has to be ongoing."

UVic lodge plans shrunk

BY MIKE COX

It's a lodge not a hotel, officials say.

After an out-cry by Sidney and North Saanich hotel owners last year, the university has changed its expansion plans for Dunsmuir Lodge.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed between the University of Victoria (UVic) and North Saanich Nov. 12, agreeing to scale down previous $10.4 million renovation plans.

Jim Griffith, UVic executive director of external relations, said the MOU is basically a letter of understanding wherein UVic agrees to help businesses on the peninsula whenever possible, while marketing Dunsmuir as an educational facility.

"Our target audience will be educational programming, seminars and conferences," he said. "The economic spin-off that we can provide from this benefits the entire peninsula."

The MOU establishes a five-person District of North Saanich and UVic liaison committee made up of two university representatives, two North Saanich councillors and one other member to be appointed.

Griffith and Jack Falk, UVic vice president finance and operations, will be the two UVic representatives, but North Saanich is undecided as to who will sit on their behalf.

According to the MOU, the committee will be responsible for discussing "the means by which the university can become a more effective contributor to all aspects of the economic development of the Saanich Peninsula."

The renovations to Dunsmuir will include a new classroom, and improved lighting and seating for breakout rooms in the lodge, carrying a price tag of $600,000.

Griffith said previous expansion plans – which drew criticism from local hotel owners – were taking on too much at once, but added Dunsmuir is not in competition with local hotels and businesses.

"It's the few that object that get attention, and not the hundreds who support the development."

Critics, like the Saanich Peninsula Tourism Association, say UVic's lodge is competing unfairly with local hotels, because the university is exempt from property taxes.

Bruce Kilpatrick, with UVic communications, said the anonymous pamphlet published last year – which started much of the criticism about Dunsmuir – and criticism about Dunsmuir's commercial activities are way off.

"Dunsmuir has always been an educational, conference and training facility," said Kilpatrick. "I don't think [critics] will be happy until Dunsmuir doesn't exist, and that's just not going to happen."

Kilpatrick wouldn't comment on the possibility of future expansions including more bedrooms, a pool, hot-tub or exercise room – all proposed in the original expansion.

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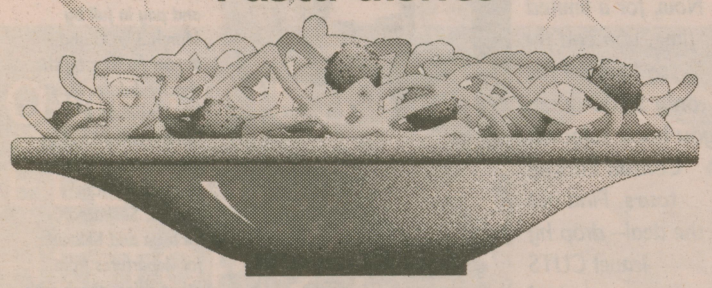
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East Sooke residents still fighting proposed development

After three years of battling with East Sooke residents, controversial developer Michael Thornton is seeking final approval from the Capital Regional District for his eco-tourism resort in East Sooke.

BY MIKE COX

What do a golf course, a marina, a lodge, cormorants and salmon have in common?

They're a major source of debate in the community of East Sooke, the home of Michael Thornton's newest proposal for a property known as Silver Spray.

The developer touts his latest proposal for the 170-acre oceanfront property adjacent to a provincial park west of Victoria as an eco-tourism development that would help bring money and services into the community.

"It makes more sense to us to have a place where people are going to stay and not have to go out for lunch or play golf," Thornton said Jan. 5 at a presentation to the planning committee. The committee was appointed by the Capital Regional District (CRD) to recommend action to the district on behalf of the community of East Sooke.

The meeting lasted over six hours and had to be spread out over two days, as East Sooke residents recited reason upon reason for or against the development.

Thornton came under fire from residents for not respecting environmental issues, his inability to assure a proposed multi-million dollar water line to East Sooke would actually work, and for not listening to the voices of residents who think the development would bring too many new residents to East Sooke.

All of which are arguments that have been echoing through the community since Thornton first pitched a development proposal in June 1997.

The original development called for a 274-home subdivision with a lodge, golf course, and marina on the property, but then regional director Diane Bernard rejected his proposal because it required removing a 65-acre parcel of land from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), which Thornton owned at the time.

Since then public pressure has seen the proposal undergo three make-overs. Thornton's latest eco-tourism model of development includes an 85-room resort, 15 guest cottages, 127 single-family units, a 115-berth marina and a nine-hole golf course.

Every time I do something legally [critics] start screaming 'the sky is falling'

Among the environmental concerns cited by the critics of the Silver Spray is the development of an inland lagoon marina with a 50-foot entrance. The Sierra Club of Victoria argues this opening will create a fish-trap for migrating chum and salmon along the property.

"A river of important chum and other salmon have migrated along the property's shoreline, but the developer's 'environmental assessment' neglected to consider, or even mention these facts," said East Sooke resident Gloria Snively.

A group called Citizens Action to Save the Environment (CASE) has attacked Thornton's development for its effects on the double-crested cormorants, which are red-listed in Canada, and native to the property.

Lani Thompson, a member of CASE, said if the development isn't stopped the birds could become endangered.

"During winter and spring of 1996 and 1997 a magnificent stand of sitka spruce was leveled – destroying the roosts. Then in the spring of '98, the top of Possession Point was blasted to rubble for road base. Their habitat destroyed, the cormorants are starting to vanish," she said.

Thornton's development plans have changed and been stonewalled over the past three years, but he argues he has bent over backwards for the community.

After purchasing Silver Spray, residents were outraged at the prospect of having a development next to the 3,500 acre East Sooke Park.

"I offered to sell the land back to the CRD at market value for a park, but nobody could afford to buy it," Thornton said. "Every time I do something legally [critics] start screaming 'the sky is falling'."

There will be two kilometres of roads on the property also, and Thornton argues the new roads will be leverage for residents to get East Sooke Road fixed.

"Every year East Sooke grows and nothing is done to the roads and services. We should use [development] planning as leverage to fix the roads," Thornton said.

But East Sooke Residents Association member Allan Crow said there will be increased traffic because of the development that will be a detriment to the entire East Sooke community.

"I'm very fearful of how increased traffic will decrease my quality of life," he said.

Lorenzo Donato, a resident of East Sooke opposed to Silver Spray, said Thornton's development will increase taxes for residents.

"Once he [Thornton] gets the rezoning he's out of here and I, as a tax payer, don't want to be stuck with the bill."

So after two days of debate, three years of development plans, defamation lawsuits and countersuits, where does the Silver Spray development stand today?

With tempers flaring, and both pro and anti-Silver Spray points of view repeated again and again Thornton turned to the crowd and asked "If I address all the concerns raised, would you support [Silver Spray]?"

Silence permeated the room.

East Sooke residents fear surrounding land will be turned into a resort area, including a nine hole golf course.

Photo submitted

June 1997:
Thornton pitched a proposal for a 274-home subdivision with a lodge, golf course, and marina on the property.

July 1998:
A scaled down 88-home subdivision on a 164-acre portion of the land, with no golf course, but a 44-room lodge and marina. He later bumped the proposal up to 98 homes and promised to bring piped water to neighbouring East Sooke residents.

August 1999:
Thornton was granted approval to subdivide 138 acres of the property into 11, 10-acre lots. He planned to build a 48-home strata development, with up to 96 other bed and breakfast and office structures on the land.

Today:
Thornton's latest eco-tourism model of development includes an 85-room resort, 15 guest cottages, 127 single-family units, a 115-berth marina and a nine-hole golf course.

USED USED USED

Liberals implicated in McGill admissions scandal

BY JON BRICKER

MONTREAL (CUP) - The plot has thickened in a wrongful dismissal suit that has embroiled big Canadian politicians and McGill University administrators.

At a Quebec Court of Appeals hearing Jan. 5, Peggy Sheppard, McGill's former director of Admissions, repeated her demands that the court look at her evidence which, she says, clearly shows university administrators used backdoor tactics to admit some students.

And when her department wouldn't go along with admitting the children of wealthy and high-profile Canadians, she says, the university decided to get rid of her.

Last month, Sheppard said Robert Kaplan, a former Liberal cabinet minister, pressured McGill in 1983 to admit his son even though he did not meet minimum admissions standards.

She was forced to name Kaplan after Superior Court Justice Jean-Guy Dubois turned down a request to remove himself from the case because of connections to the federal Liberals.

Dubois was a Liberal MP from 1980-84, while Kaplan was the solicitor-general.

"I know how political connections work," Sheppard said in court.

We are absolutely and totally confident that we will be able to present a case that categorically shows no wrongdoing by McGill.

Last week's hearing also saw the appeal court uphold Sheppard's motion to appeal Dubois' refusal to remove himself from her case.

Dubois earlier said his presiding over the case did not pose a conflict of interest.

Sheppard now has to decide whether to put the issue to the court's Chief Justice or include it in a March 3 hearing that is already slated to look into what evidence she can present.

Sheppard's plight is earning her a lot of support from a host of backers who call the justice system unfit to handle wrongful dismissal cases.

About 20 supporters showed up to the Court of Appeals hearing which took place on Jan. 5. Karen Jacinto, who is waiting for her own wrongful dismissal case to be heard, said the emotional and financial impacts of these cases are tremendous.

According to one document filed by Sheppard, of Quebec's 145 justices only one, Dubois, is a former Liberal MP, but 22 have McGill law degrees.

But while McGill wouldn't comment on details of the case, University Relations Director Kate Williams defended the administration's stake in Sheppard's dismissal.

"We are absolutely and totally confident that we will be able to present a case that categorically shows no wrongdoing by McGill," said Williams.

Kaplan has also denied he was aware of any effort to have his son admitted despite his failing to meet academic requirements.

But Sheppard has said that pointing fingers and naming names is not what the case is about. The real issues, she said, are the behaviour of a few administrators and her ultimate dismissal – not a campaign to drag McGill's name through the mud.

"I wasn't a whistle-blower," she said, noting she remains proud of her own McGill degrees and her time as a university employee.

She turned down opportunities to name Kaplan and other high-profile Canadians involved until Dubois forced her to.

Sheppard was formally fired in 1994 and now claims the university failed to live up to its end of a 1986 deal.

Sheppard was forced out of the Admissions post in 1986 after the position was changed to demand an academic with doctorate level qualifications. She agreed to a deal that included a two-year study leave during which she completed a master's degree.

But when she returned, she says in her claim, she was offered positions that she deemed inappropriate and that didn't honour McGill's commitment to keep her on.

Since 1996, her case has been an uphill climb. She's been unable to afford a lawyer, and has represented herself against an administration led by high-priced Montreal law firm McCarthy-Tetrault.

"It's been devastating for me," said Sheppard. "I just can't afford legal help."

In a letter handed out at a McGill Senate meeting last month, administration refused to respond to a request from Political Science professor Sam Noumoff for a full report of the legal costs being incurred by McGill in Sheppard's case.

"We're not commenting on details," Williams said. "But there's been a serious effort in the last few years to reduce our legal expenses."

Minister encourages partnerships

BY CHRIS BODNAR

OTTAWA (CUP) - Jane Stewart, federal minister of Human Resources and Development, says her government recognizes the importance of a strong post-secondary education system in Canada, even though it may not be seen as a social program anymore.

In an interview with Canadian University Press, Stewart outlined what she views as her government's accomplishments in the realm of higher education.

But she avoided commenting on whether Canadians can count on their education system to get the same attention as other social programs.

"Education is certainly viewed as an important piece of a healthy Canada," said Stewart in regard to her government's view of spending on post-secondary education.

Stewart says Ottawa has shown its commitment to education through initiatives like the use of Registered Education Savings Programs, the Millennium Scholarship Fund, making interest on student loans tax deductible and by extending loan repayment periods.

"When you look at the numbers of students supported by Canada students loans, I think what we're finding is that we do have to have strong partnerships at all levels of government and with individual citizens to ensure that we create a tradition of life-long learning in Canada," she said.

But Stewart also maintains there is a greater need for corporate involvement in Canada's education system.

"In the new economy all jobs are knowledge-based jobs," said Stewart. "I think that what we're finding is that we need partnerships."

But despite Stewart's insistence that the Liberals are looking towards "partnerships" with the provinces, the government has come under repeated attack from some provincial governments for meddling in provincial affairs.

In November, the provincial finance ministers called on the federal government to increase transfer payments to the provinces for education by $3.7 billion a year. Transfer payments to the provinces for post-secondary education and training have been cut by $7 billion since the Liberals took office in 1993.

Stewart herself had to step in to mediate negotiations between the Millennium Scholarship Foundation and the government of Quebec, after the province accused Ottawa of trying to control education through the scholarship program. Education is designated as a provincial jurisdiction in Canada's constitution.

And while Stewart says her government has no intention of taking control of education away from the provinces, government documents indicate the Liberals recognized the provinces' dissatisfaction with educational funding.

In documents obtained from the Privy Council Office under an Access to Information request, speaking notes for the Prime Minister warned that there would be opposition to the Millennium Scholarship Fund's creation.

"Provinces see themselves as key stakeholders, as education is a provincial jurisdiction, and they may seek a role in designing the Fund and/or the scholarships," say the documents from late 1997 and early 1998. "Further, to date, both Quebec and Alberta have indicated that their share of the funds should be transferred to them."

The documents indicate the Millennium Fund would serve to "compliment" existing provincial programs, not to replace them.

Other documents show a greater concern on behalf of the federal government to monitor the political commentary from Quebec regarding national unity, rather than working out details on how the Foundation would allocate money or be structured.

Despite early indications that the Millennium Fund would be in addition to existing programs, Ottawa has had to reconsider these earlier statements.

It is now allowing some provincial governments to reduce current student aid programs, resulting in substantial savings in the areas of education spending.

The Ontario government estimates savings of up to $90 million after replacing part of a loan-forgiveness program with the new federal scholarships.

But despite differences between the federal and provincial governments, Stewart says the Liberals are committed to ensuring good relations between all levels of government.

"There are a large number of federal programs in the area of education and by in large they're well-received," she said. "They're strong partnerships between the government of Canada and other leaders in their particular domains."

editorial

Endangered species write-off?

Is David Anderson for real? Heralded by many as Canada's first environmentalist Minister of Environment, on Dec. 22 he unveiled a response to the demands of Canadians for strong legislation to protect endangered species. The Species At Risk Act (SARA), the legislation Anderson proposed was laced with conservationist intentions, but left a door wide open to continued violence waged by corporate industries against vulnerable, threatened and endangered species.

An illogical deficiency in the proposal is to give the final word on which species get listed as endangered to politicians instead of scientists. The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), a scientific body, is to present the federal government with species listed under classifications ranging from "Special Concern" ("a species with characteristics that make it particularly vulnerable to human activities or natural events") to "Threatened," "Endangered," "Extirpated" and "Extinct." This list, however, will have no legal standing until subjected to revision by the Federal Government. Anderson's policy reads:

"When a species is listed as threatened or endangered, legal protections would automatically come into force, which would carry social and economic implications, including legal sanctions and penalties. Such a process must involve political accountability for both those who want species to be listed and for those concerned about possible negative impacts of listing...the Minister of Environment would be obliged to justify fully any differences between COSEWIC's recommendations and the legal list approved by the Government of Canada."

Evidently, a government used to legislating based on economic and political imperatives is not entirely comfortable with a responsibility to scientific reality.

Under the Wildlife Act in B.C., out of 260 species COSEWIC has recommended for protection, only four, including the Vancouver Island Marmot, have ever been listed. What reason we have to expect the federal government to do any better, when they could conveniently leave species listed in the "Special Concern" category, remains to be seen.

Even if a species endemic to B.C. becomes listed as "Threatened" or "Endangered," if its habitat is within the 95 per cent of our province under provincial jurisdiction (crown land), the Feds under SARA are not required to do anything:

"While some advocate that federal prohibitions on all identified critical habitat areas should be automatic, the Government of Canada believes it would be inappropriate to impose automatic habitat prohibitions without first relying on individuals, organizations, and jurisdictions to act within their own areas of responsibility."

The policy outlines conditions under which it might consider taking steps to protect critical habitat, but nowhere does it state conditions under which the Federal Government would be obliged to act. The decision to protect the species would be purely discretionary. Similar discretionary intervention rights exist elsewhere in Canadian Environmental law (the Wildlife, Water and Environmental Assessment Acts all have them) but according to Sierra Legal Defense Fund lawyers, these measures have never once been used.

The glaring question remains whether this act will be different. Could it be that though the proposition is suspect, the act itself will be an unassailable protection of species? Or is this another example of symbolic politics, akin the Forest Practices Code, which quelled the tide of public outcry against clear cutting (for a time) while allowing the plunder of habitat to continue unabated?

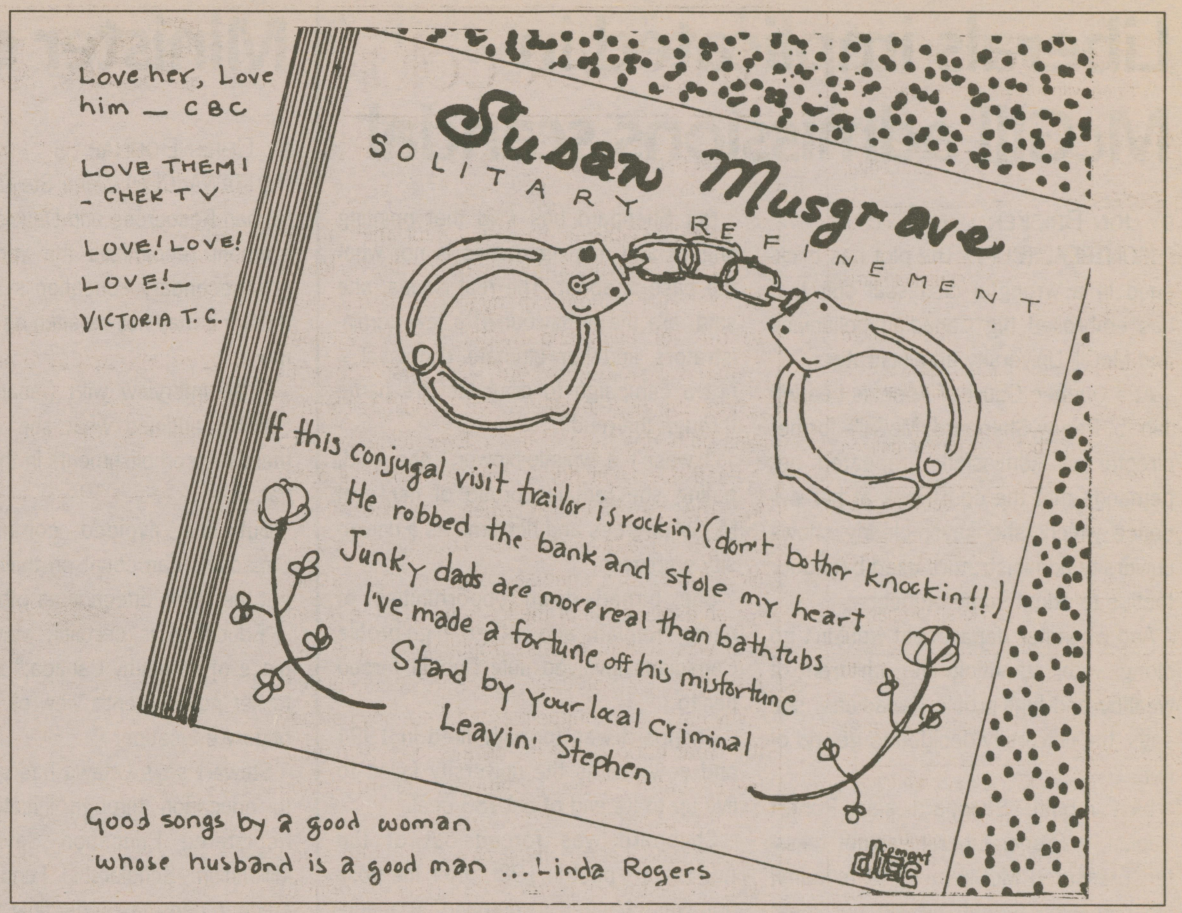
Astonishing as it is, SARA not only fails to obligate protection of listed species, it goes so far as to legitimize their slaughter:

"There could be instances of incidental harm to individuals of a threatened or endangered species while otherwise lawful activities are being conducted. A process to permit or authorize such incidental harm would be provided by SARA. SARA would also recognize existing permits, licenses and orders made under other legislation."

This indicates that simply because a logging company has a valid tree farm license, it will be given a permit to kill members of a species it has driven to near-extinction. As proposed, SARA doesn't stand up to the corporate forces behind habitat destruction, the leading cause of extinction.

SARA is touted by the government as the fulfillment of international and domestic responsibilities to protect species from extinction. But it does nothing to prevent them from reaching extinction's very brink. How can a government claim to be responsible while coveting the right to deny scientific reality, or to act when it is recognized? Anderson's proposal bars no pristine valleys from Interfor chainsaws: the last remaining wells of biodiversity in our province still stand to be violated.

Luckily, SARA is only a proposal, and a few weeks remain to shake some sense in to the Ministry of Environment. SARA's current form might more accurately be called Species at Risk Aggravator. Its biggest danger lies in that it is being used to convince the public that steps are being taken to protect biodiversity. What's clearest from a close reading of the proposal is that Anderson isn't much of an environmentalist after all.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disc

letters....

Distressed Reader

I just saw the latest issue of *the Marlet*. I have to say I find your banner headlines distressing. Surely you could come up with another word rather than "fucking" to give punch to your headline. Really pathetic!

Adrianne Thomson

The 'real' millennium

Your latest issue (December 9, 1999) claims to be the "last fucking *Martlet* of the millennium." Does this mean that you won't be distributing any more newspapers until January 4, 2001 — which is the first Thursday of the next millennium — or does it mean that you will be printing *Martlets*, but they just won't be "fucking" *Martlets*? I hope that's not it, because the fucking is my favourite part.

Matthew Skala

Another two bits

The headline is rude — eyecatching, but rude and inappropriate.

Wishing *the Marlet* better luck next year for an editor with language skills, especially adjectives.

Norma Alison

The truth about the Gulf War

The United States is looting and blackmailing the gulf oil sheikdoms into bailing out the bankrupt US financial houses and federal government. A telling example of how the US Establishment intends to administer a crumbling US domestic economy while imposing the New World Order on the rest of the world is to be found in the investment of Saudi Prince Alwaleed Talal bin Abdul Aziz in Citicorp in February 1991. Citicorp was one of the major American commercial banks on the verge of collapse, but which was considered by the Bush administration and the Federal Reserve System to be "too big to fail." Alwaleed provided it with badly needed capital in the form of $590 million worth of new convertible preferred stock. This stock purchase amounted to a Saudi Royal Family bailout of Citicorp, using the increased profits being enjoyed by the House of Saud as a result of the massive jump in Saudi oil production since the beginning of the Gulf crisis in August 1990.

While the harsh reparations terms being imposed upon a war-devastated Iraq are probably aimed at dissuading any future regional military power from launching cross-border aggressions, they amount to the slow, excruciating extermination of the population of that country. Earlier air wars had caused greater immediate losses of life, due to the inaccuracy of bombs and rockets, but had generally left basic infrastructures intact. The later precision bombing of Iraq's entire infrastructure will cause a greater loss of life, in the aftermath of the combat, as a country with 17 million inhabitants is suddenly thrown into a "pre-industrial" state with no electricity, no water or other necessities. American humanitarian aid, administered by occupying troops, will not offset this "apocalypse," especially if harsh war reparations and asset seizures deprive Iraq of the financial resources needed to begin a rebuilding process.

As the result of the Gulf War and the post war American military occupation of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other key oil producing sheikdoms, the United States now exerts unabashed control over world oil supplies, and prices. The military victory over Iraq enabled the US to establish a string of permanent military bases throughout the Persian Gulf and Near East. The oil sheikdoms of the region, led by Saudi Arabia, are now thoroughly dependent on the American military presence to ensure the survival of their regimes. Washington has effectively captured the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). American bankers, aided by US gunboats, are now setting world oil prices.

Rana Phagurra

Not a mindless simpleton

[This letter was edited for length]

During my Christmas break, I picked up *the Martlet* (Dec. 9, 1999). Maybe I picked up the wrong publication, I really don't know. What I do know is that I became a little upset at the monologues on page seven dealing with the World Trade Organization (WTO). Both seemed to revel in some selective and even schizophrenic application of logic. Ultimately, I was left wondering what was going on, for unlike Tracy McKee and Elizabeth Dent, I don't attempt to question things on the basis of right or wrong, good or bad. I just try to gain an understanding of what is happening.

What I see with respect to the WTO protest is a well organized protest completely conscious of the importance of the electronic media. The media liaison representatives well versed on what sells in the world of television promoted the event as the "Battle in Seattle," yet argued the event would be a non-violent act of civil disobedience.

Yet, I wonder what is the truth. I think about past protests that have turned violent. People chanting, "the whole world is watching!" to the TV cameras as the police officers act the way they have been trained. I think about such verbal statements, then I get angry as I feel manipulated. Many of these protesters see themselves as martyrs but I see them as media savvy. I think provocation is an unwritten and unspoken rule with the goal of conflict to generate sympathy.

I watch the electronic battlefield extend itself into human actions and watch as the issues are forgotten, and the chance for discussion and understanding lost. Then I get mad as I realize both sides are battling to convince me of their truth, unwilling to allow me a say in the matter. To the opposing sides of any "telecommunicated" conflict, I am a mindless simpleton incapable of individual thought and initiative. Unfortunately, for all involved, I am so much more.

Michele Milone

martlet
"flying without feet for 51 years"

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the martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavor to print every letter received from members of the university community, with priority to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and phone number for verification. Letters must be 200 words maximum. Letters will be reviewed for libel at ***the martlet*** editorial meeting on the week of publication. Deadline for letters is Friday noon for publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters will pseudonyms or group names will not be printed. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Letters will only be edited for spelling, grammar and length.

correction

the artist of the artwork on the cover of the Martlet published on dec. 9 was not properly credited. our apologies to david low, who created the fabulous linocut.

the sex column

Sex and surgical steel

By Glen Plummer

I proudly displayed my latest adornment to my mom the moment I arrived home for the holidays. Mom's initial response to my tongue piercing was to roll her eyes and mutter a well meaning, "When will you grow up?" Dad just chose to ignore the new jewellery, but I could tell that it was bothering both of them. Everything came to a head one night during dinner. Mom was passing me the potatoes when she looked me straight in the face and said, "I don't understand." Now, I was a bit confused. Was my mom asking for an explanation of the lowly tuber – the potato – or was something else troubling her. The mystery was explained as my mother continued, "Why have your tongue pierced if nobody can see it? What good is it if it's always in your mouth." Never before have I come closer to having mashed potatoes fly out of my nose.

Body piercing is nothing new. I won't bore you with the history of piercing, but I will get right to the point (no pun intended). In my opinion there are two types of body piercing: decorative or sexual. The two are basically self-explanatory, but the line separating the two often becomes blurred. Some people get pierced in erogenous zones simply because they think it looks cool. Fools, you don't get a genital piercing so that you can hang the Hope diamond from it. Genital piercing, like any sexual piercing, is for enjoyment, not adornment.

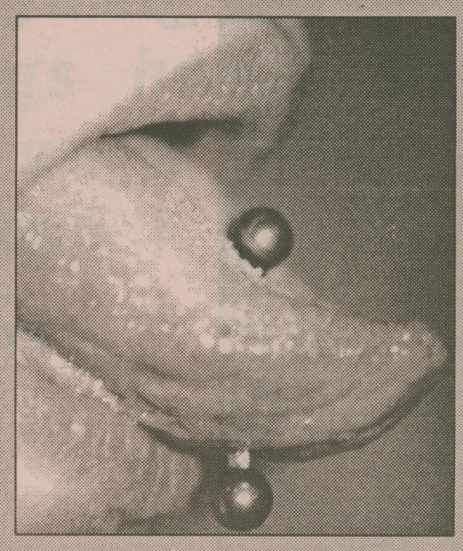
Body piercing is not for the faint of heart; some piercings can be more painful or difficult than others. According to Ernie of Body Piercing in Victoria, one of the more difficult places to pierce is the head of the penis.

"Putting the ampallang into the head of the penis is hard to do," Ernie says. "It requires 10 to15 minutes of pushing through hard tissue."

Another area that Ernie says is a problem to pierce is the hood of the clitoris, but for a rather different reason.

"Women come in and ask to get their hood pierced and then have no idea where it is," said Ernie.

So, if body piercing is potentially so painful,



why would anyone get it done? To answer this, imagine how good it feels when someone sucks on your nipples or goes down on you. Men should not do this exercise while in a public place as the resulting rise may become embarrassing. Now, imagine the same actions, but with a tingling sensation going through your body. Say, the same sensation you might get if you ran a low voltage of electricity through electrodes attached to your nipples, not that I have ever tried that, but trust me on how good this feels. If the idea of this extra sensation does not arouse you, stick to getting your navel or your ears pierced.

Tongue piercing is like one of those gifts that just keeps on giving. The pierced individual gains no extra sensation from the barbell in his or her tongue. However, anyone who has been on the receiving end of oral sex from a talented individual with a pierced tongue can tell you that nothing measures up to the experience. A tongue piercing is the equivalent of a turbo for your tongue. Keep in mind however, that if you put a turbo on a Pinto, you still have a Pinto. If you don't know how to use your tongue to begin with, a tongue ring is nothing more than decoration.

So, how do you decide what erogenous zone you should have pierced? First, you have to ask yourself if you want the piercing so that you can provide pleasure or receive it or both. Initially you might be greedy, and that's your right. Eventually however, you will likely find yourself back in the hands of a body piercer getting a piercing that is designed to reach the erogenous zone of others. Another thing to keep in mind is your body's potential for rejecting whatever you stick into it. This does happen occasionally and a qualified piercer should caution you about this. Lastly, and most importantly, go to a qualified body piercer. Ask lots of questions and never get rushed into anything.

The Sex Column is a new venue in the Martlet *for writing about, well, sex. If you are interested in writing a column, just drop it by the* Martlet *office in SUB b011 or e-mail martlet@uvic.ca.*

If you have any questions to ask Martlet sex columnists about, well, sex, e-mail the Martlet. *We'll try to answer them and you'll remain anonymous.*

student voice

Student finds alternative

By Deon Savage

My name is Deon Savage and this is my fourth year at UVic. Every semester I have followed all the other lemmings to the bookstore, and I paid prices that I thought were expensive but just assumed the bookstore was doing the best they could to give us the lowest prices possible. I would complain that the publishers were outrageous and authors were greedy. I never doubted this process because there were so many other people who followed it. That's just the way it is for us broke students.

Not anymore. While shopping for my January textbooks, I have learned there is a more affordable and convenient alternative to buying from the bookstore. On Monday, Dec. 6, 1999 I was looking at the textbooks I needed next semester, and I was unable to locate the editions of the books. I figured the bookstore would need the information to order the books, so I asked the information desk. The first woman I spoke to said they do not publish that information in order to make it difficult for competitors to provide the same books. Well, I'm not a competitor; I'm just a student. We started talking and I explained that I was not complaining or attacking her, but that I thought it was unfair to control students by withholding information so they could not search for their books elsewhere.

After a while her supervisor came over, and once again I explained I was not attacking them. After about ten minutes of backpedaling and thinking of any excuse that sounded reasonable for not finding out the edition numbers for me, the supervisor said she was not going to waste her staff's "man hours" to help me buy from someone else. She said that would be taking advantage of the bookstore's research efforts, and I should be grateful that they have done the work for me. First of all, the bookstore is taking advantage of the students, and why would I be grateful to them when they can't even take two minutes to help out a student?

The conversation ended by her walking away from me in a defensive manner, while I was thinking that it took her more time to argue with me than it would have taken to help me. So, I decided to take my business elsewhere, and I am sure glad I did. I went right down to the computer lab and checked out online prices from Chapter's bookstore. Generally, their new book costs were less than the used book costs at the bookstore, and I could get free delivery to my home usually shipped within 24 hours.

There was a service to order online, but being skeptical of online shopping I decided to go downtown myself.

Unlike the service from the bookstore, Chapters' employees were more than willing to spend as much time as needed to help me and show me the best way to get the lowest prices available. Also unlike the bookstore which just expects my business, Chapters was genuinely interested in earning it. They took the time to set me up online and build my confidence in online shopping. They were courteous and are obviously aware that customer service goes a long way.

Of the four text books I would have bought from the bookstore, I was able to purchase the same books from Chapters, get great service and 24 hour shipment to my home while still saving $100.00!!! I urge everyone to explore alternatives to the bookstore and hope you can save as much money as, or more than, I was able to.

Due to my treatment at the bookstore, I will never be buying books from the UVic Bookstore again. They do not care about students or our struggles. I have been, and will continue, to tell as many people as I can about my experience and the affordable, courteous and convenient alternatives to buying from the bookstore.

work for the Martlet

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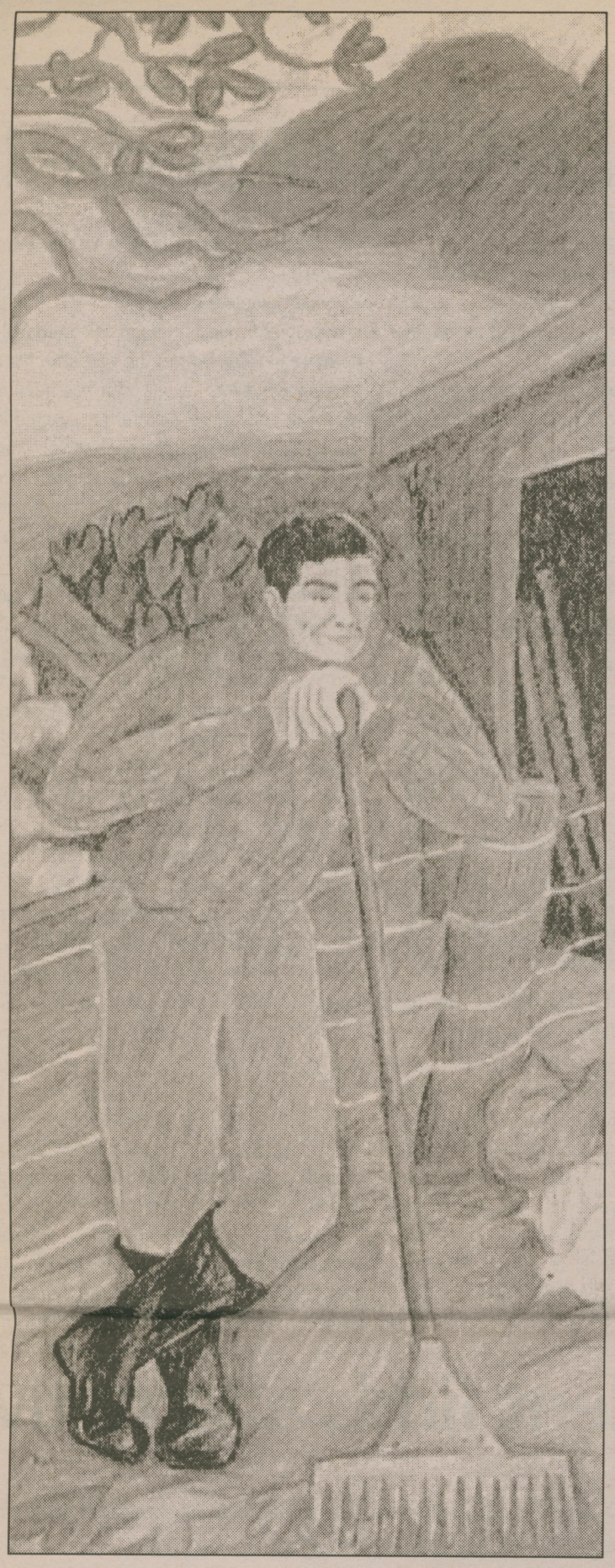


Half out-of-c
& in search o

Tom Henry, his work, his daugh

by Craig Battle

One morning in May 1993, author Tom Henry was fired from his job as a staff writer for *Monday Magazine*.

It all happened like you would see in a movie, or read in a business magazine. Sid Tafler, the editor at that time, called Henry into his office, handed him an envelope and said, "We're going to have to let you go." Henry was to be out of the building, with all his belongings, in two hours or less. No reason for termination was given.

"I went back into the other room and I could hardly talk," said Henry. "Everything's going through my head. Like, 'How am I going to pay for the rent, and kid, and... Jesus.'"

At the time, Henry was renting a house on Beecher Bay in Metchosin with partner Lorna Jackson and their newborn Lily. Jackson was working on her master's degree in English at the University of Victoria, en route to becoming a teacher at the university. She actually welcomed her partner's dismissal.

"It was very exciting – a huge relief for me," said Jackson. "He started to get his confidence back. [*Monday*] was too much work and not enough support."

Henry began freelance writing and soon signed a book deal with Harbour Publishing. Since then, between stints of wood-chopping, logging, farming, tow-boating and gardening, Henry has completed six books and written articles for publications ranging from the *Metchosin Muse* – his local paper – to the *Raincoast Chronicles*. He has received accolades for his work, winning the 1999 Bill Duthie B.C. Bookseller's Award for *Westcoasters: Boats that Built B.C.*, and the B.C. Historical Federation's Lieutenant Governor's Award for *Good Company: An Affectionate History of the Union Steamships*.

Now 38 years old, the multitasking author seems a far cry from the Duncan teenager who took remedial English grades nine through 12, and once waged a war against the billboards that lined the highway of his hometown.

"My friends and I got pretty good marks, and caused some shit."

Henry says that his teachers called him a smart kid, and spoke well of his potential, but the writer isn't antsy for his next class reunion.

"I went to a really dumb, dumb school that really kind of squashed my academics. The coolest guys were the ones who got C-minuses, Ds, and their emphasis was really, 'Duh.' If anybody showed any sign of brightness in the class, it was like, 'Aw, fuck you.'"

Henry realized his mistakes when he compared his attitudes to those of a friend of his, who had spent a few years at a private school in England.

"God, he had such a great experience. He was so knowledgeable, so interested in things. That's exactly the spirit that had been squeezed out of me for quite a while. I used to be like that, and then went into this sort of, 'Don't show any interest in anything.' It took me a long time to get that back, to think that it was okay [to be interested in things]."

But Henry didn't waste his disillusioned years. A common mission was stealing the McDonald's drive-thru signs to set up in driveways at parties, but his real campaign was against billboards. In the purest days, the war was won with hacksaws. But after the city began bracing them with angle iron, Henry and his friends had to use their imaginations.

"We did Molotov Cocktails and burned them, and then that just got too dangerous because the instant the cocktail hit the billboard, you were standing there and there were huge flames everywhere. People would pull over and stop, and you had to explain why you're in the field. We were just really lucky we didn't get caught."

After that, they pulled them down with a truck and a rope tow.

"I'd call that healthy, middle-class stuff. We never really harmed anybody," Henry continued. "I'm all for people actively getting into trouble. If you want to get pissed and binge over to Vancouver and do crazy things and do drugs in an energetic sort of way, that's all right."

Henry says he still is a reckless kid in many ways. He recalls a day five years ago when he talked his three-year-old daughter into riding their red wagon down a hill. They got going faster and faster until Henry jammed his foot under the front wheel to try to stop the wagon.

"We went ass over tea kettle, the two of us. I remember as I was cart-wheeling through the air, looking and watching Lily's face go splat into the pavement, thinking, 'Oh God. She's going to break out all her teeth or her gums or something like that.' Fortunately, kids have such a fat face... I remember thinking, 'Man oh man, am I ever going to be in shit.'"

ntrol
f fun

r, her wagon.

"I never want to be in that position where one person can say, 'You don't have a job, and you're fucked.' But I'm not set against anything – too many weird things have happened to me in weird directions to ever say that I will never do something."

Henry thinks this story somehow illustrates his life.

"Half out-of-control. In search of fun," he says. "Things not ever working out the way you planned."

At the time of the wagon incident, Henry was writing a recurring "Country Life" column for CBC Radio, and compiling stories for his book, *Dogless in Metchosin*.

The book centres on his life in Beecher Bay, in particular focussing on his father-daughter relationship with Lily.

"At that time, I was hanging around with Lily a lot, and I was looking for a new take on that kind of living. A kid is living fresh, they always have fresh ideas on things, which is like a dream for a writer."

There are several tender sections about Lily in the book, such as "Child Labour Laws," in which Henry describes how when he cuts wood, "Lily stands atop the hemlock chopping block and cheers. 'Come on saw!'" But the author says he has trouble defining a good father.

"I don't know whether a good father is somebody who is very affectionate, and understanding, and always there. I guess the answer is, of course, that is a good father. But a good father – a good parent – is somebody who sets an example of pursuing your own goals. Like, you could tell your kid, 'Go follow your own goals, follow your own path.' But if you don't do it yourself, they probably won't either."

Henry, the fifth of five children, said growing up he had "the best of both worlds" – the benefit of parents who had done a lot of parenting, who then had a lot of time for him.

His parents, Joy and Bill Henry, now 73 and 75, still live in Duncan. They instilled in their son an attraction to country living, and this eventually drew Henry and his family to their current home in Metchosin.

Lorna Jackson says that Henry is both fun and intense to live with.

"He loves to work and loves to accomplish things," said Jackson. "He wants everybody else to do things at the same speed as he does. Sometimes he's got us all out in the garden at eight o'clock in the morning."

The two have been together for 10 years, ever since they met in a third-year fiction workshop at the University.

"I never thought we could do anything for 10 years," said Jackson.

Henry relishes their current situation, and being close to Victoria for its strong community feel and great air. And on a different level, he appreciates the excitement and high voter turnout he saw at all-candidates meetings for the past municipal elections.

"[Metchosin] is really self-aware. 'The unexamined life is not worth living' sort of applies to this place. We're always really thinking about what we're doing here."

In *Dogless*, he said he likes Metchosin because it allows him to live close enough to the land that his family can have "at least a hint of self-sufficiency." This is important to Henry.

"I really like that we grow a lot of our own food a lot of the year, and that we heat our house with wood. If something went wrong we could take care of ourselves for quite a while," he said. "I doubt whether we'll ever need it. It just makes me feel good, the same way that having a bit of extra money in the bank makes you feel good."

Henry has lived off the island, taking co-op positions in the Yukon and Cranbrook. He has lived in Vancouver as well, and once attended

classes at the University of British Columbia without ever actually enrolling. Henry hasn't lived city life since, but he knows its merits.

"Going to a larger city worked the same way for me that going to another country has worked for other people. You learn a lot more about where you come from than you do about where you are.

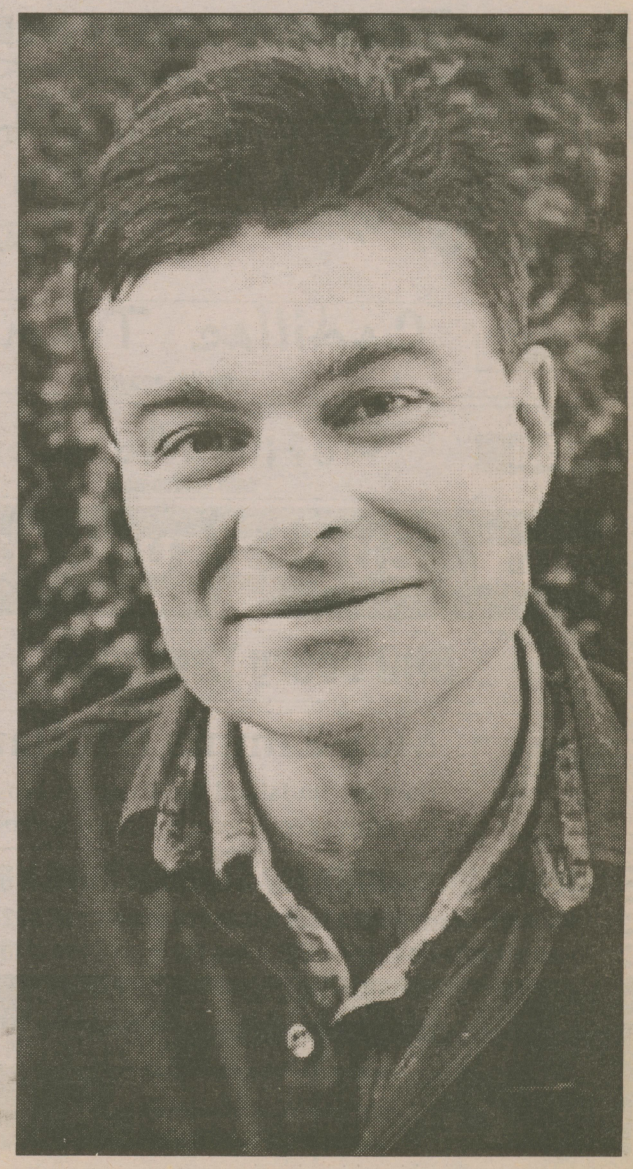
"I wouldn't mind going back to a city if I knew it wasn't permanent."

The author said he'd even return to an office job, as long as he had room to move and some security.

"I never want to be in that position where one person can say, 'You don't have a job, and you're fucked.' But I'm not set against anything – too many weird things have happened to me in weird directions to ever say that I will never do something."

And so, Henry has moved on from that rude May morning six years ago in his then editor's office, but not completely.

"I was very damaged out of that, and I still am in a way," he said. "I'd still like to beat the shit out of the editor."



Magnolia's too long and slow

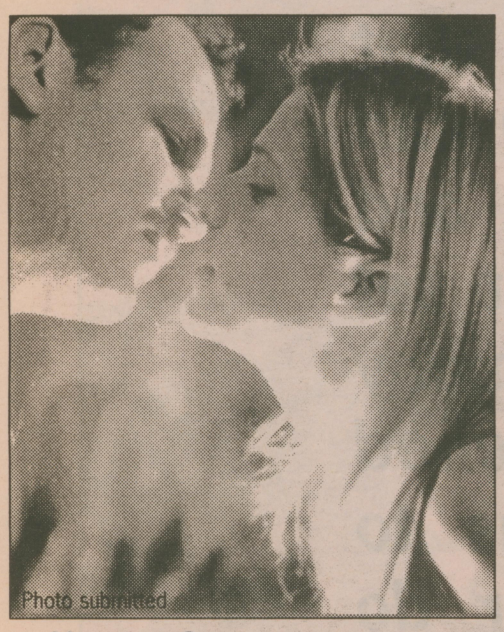


Photo submitted

BY MARGARET SPEIRS

The idea behind the new film Magnolia is that complete strangers and events can be connected and that anything can happen. This movie shows that even though you can put many Academy Award-nominated actors together, what can happen is a mediocre movie.

Magnolia is the third movie from P.T. Anderson, who wrote and directed Hard Eight and Boogie Nights. This latest film literally revolves around two families and the complexity of their relationships.

Tom Cruise gives a remarkable performance as a female-bashing guru who makes a living by teaching men how to *manipulate women. It's* quite a departure from his usual smiling-nice-guy characters. In fact, I found that I had to remind myself that I was watching Tom Cruise. Jason Robards is excellent as Earl Partridge, Frank T.J. Mackey's (Cruise) estranged, regretful, dying father.

Several of the actors have appeared in Anderson's previous films including William H. Macy, (Boogie Nights) who plays a former child genius; Julianne Moore, (Boogie Nights) who plays Partridge's guilt-ridden young wife; and Philip Seymour Hoffman, (Hard Eight, Boogie Nights) Partridge's devoted male nurse. The movie is well cast with all of the actors giving outstanding performances.

However, despite the strong acting abilities of the cast members, there are problems with this film. The action takes place so slowly that I was looking at my watch every half hour. The audience is often left feeling the story is always on the edge of telling you something important but drags out the suspense. Though the action moves quickly at certain points, the film is slowed down by repetitive dialogue and long, drawn-out scenes. The three-hour running time for this movie could have easily been condensed into two hours.

The music was so loud at the beginning and end of the movie that it drowned out the dialogue. During the movie, the songs overwhelmed the scenes as well. There was one notable highlight when each cast member sang along to "Wise Up," one of the songs written by Aimee Mann, formerly of Til Tuesday.

On the positive side, there were some comic parts to offset the serious tone of the movie. Frank T.J. Mackey's vocal dislike of dogs was hilarious. A bizarre scene near the end of the movie had the audience laughing and saying 'yuck' at the same time.

Overall, the movie is not worth the nine-dollar ticket price, or the seven-dollar matinee cost. Better to save your money and see it on video.

Magnolia is currently showing at University Heights Alliance Atlantis Theatre nightly at 7:30 p.m. with matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m..

• Note that there is no projectionist lock-out at this theatre.

Photo submitted

Reel Madness about more than just films

BY SIMON GLEZOS

Victoria's 2nd Annual Reel Madness Film Festival seeks to join art and activism in five days of entertaining and enlightening films. Advertised as "an exploration of mental illness and recovery," the festival is a collection of films about and by people with mental illnesses.

Image submitted

"It's a way to get people talking about issues that affect them," said festival director, Bruce Saunders. "When I first had t-shirts made up for it, the slogan was 'Wake up and Smell the popcorn.' [Film] is a powerful medium and it helps get people involved in an important topic."

The Festival came about as an extension of Movie Mondays, an event Saunders himself started. Every Monday for the past two and a half years, Saunders has been showing films to the public in the theatre of the Eric Martin Pavilion (EMP), a mental institution. The idea came to him while he was patient at EMP, undergoing treatment for manic-depression.

"I noticed that the theatre downstairs was underused, and I thought it would be a good opportunity to provide some entertainment for the patients. Just because you aren't well doesn't mean you don't get bored. You still have an intellect. It gave people something to do while they wait to get better."

Originally intended as a venue solely for patients, poor attendance prompted Saunders to open Movie Mondays to the public. This not only gave the public an alternate venue in which to watch films, but also a chance to interact with people with mental illnesses, something most people may not often do.

"[Having a mental illness] is a real stigma to get over. It's often very difficult for people to deal with. This is a way people can learn about it."

Though Movie Mondays shows films of all types and subject matters, the film festival itself deals exclusively with the subject of mental illness.

"This festival is a way of putting together a cluster of films that will create a tension. It's a way to attract attention to a very important issue."

The festival comprises a wide variety of films, from independent documentaries (Dialogues with madwomen, director Allie Light's look at the way in which the mental health system treated both her and seven other women with mental illnesses) to big-budget Hollywood comedies (Analyze This, the story of a mob boss, played by Robert De Niro, who seeks relief from a nervous breakdown from psychiatrist Billy Crystal).

A number of short films will be accompanying each of the features. Vancouver native Carol Halstead's "Why?" tells the story of her life in 12 minutes through a clever montage of photographs and animation. Halstead's tale, which traces her life from her birth in the early years of the great depression to her attempts to get a masters in art at the age of 60, is told in a deadpan tone that contrasts beautifully with the vibrant imagery of the piece.

"Shrink" a remarkably funny tale of a young man's first trip to the psychiatrist, plays along side "Analyze This" on Saturday. Marvelously acted, and supported by often openly surreal visual, "Shrink" perfectly captures the anxieties and stigmas that accompany visiting a therapist.

"The Saint Inspector" and "Little Dark Poet," two claymation shorts from Britain's Bolex Brothers, were discovered by Saunders at Toronto's Rendezvous with Madness, a film festival in the same vein as Reel Madness. Seeming to work best as a kind of absurdist parable, both films are visually lush and expressive, allowing for varied interpretation on the part of the audience.

Each of the screenings will by accompanied by an open discussion about the issues raised. Several of the filmmakers themselves will be present to join in the discussion, as well as professionals from the mental health system.

Reel Madness runs from Jan. 13 to the 17. For information call 595-FLIC or look on the web at www.islandnet.com/mm.

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Belfry to host revamped Victor Hugo classic

BY JULIUS DAVIES

The Bell-Ringer is a four-and-a-half person, three act, epic (yet minimal), condensed marathon based on Victor Hugo's 500 page *Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Co-produced by UVic alumni Leon Potter and Music Composition student Greg Corness, it's playing at the Belfry from January 12– 15.

I picked up Victor Hugo's hefty classic three days ago and now, standing outside the Sally Café, a few minutes before the interview, I'm only a quarter through it. Down the street a man lugging a box and a backpack is coming my way. The clock on City Hall reads five minutes late, so I'm sure this must be Leon Potter, director and writer of *The Bell-Ringer*. Over the telephone he promised me a press package, so the heavy box looks promising.

He is Leon Potter, the first thing he says of the heavy box he's carrying is "I found the perfect Christmas present, unfortunately I've got to get it back over the ferry. It's this really heavy stone garden gnome." Not a press-package, but I suppose the disappointment is tempered with the delight of meeting a man who has actually bought a garden gnome.

In the café, one of the first things I do is thank Leon for introducing me to the book.

Leon agrees that it's a great book, then he digs into his bag and hands me a paltry one-page fax. The press package.

Bell-Ringer. Subtitle: *Epic Minimalism*. Tickets $12 adult/$10 students and seniors.

Epic Minimalism? Sounds suspiciously like composer lingo to me. I'm a composition student myself and "minimalism" gets thrown around at least once a month – Cage, Reich, Feldman, Glass, etc (see MacIsaac article in *Offbeat* this month).

"Is Greg Corness to blame for *The Bell-Ringer*'s 'Epic Minimalism?'" I ask.

The two co-producers of *The Bell-Ringer* met 10 years ago, both first year fine arts students. Potter as an aspiring actor in the Phoenix, Corness as a composer in the music school. They've been close friends since then.

Most orchestra conductors start as instrumentalists. Similarly, most directors start as something else. Potter quickly found out there was so much more to theatre than just acting and went "comprehensive" – lighting, sound, set design.

A few years after graduating, Potter cashed in a life insurance policy, moved to London and entered the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art to earn his Master's in Direction.

"Amazing place. Everyone's been there: Anthony Hopkins, Kenneth Branagh. While I was there Alan Rickman gave a talk. He was the bad guy in Die Hard. Afterwards we all went for drinks, Alan and the class. Britain's like that."

For his thesis Potter put on the Canadian play *Never Swim Alone* by Danny McIvor.

"They were all quite surprised by the idea of a Canadian play. They thought Anne of Green Gables was some sort of freak occurrence."

Potter's direction of *Never Swim Alone* hinged on a theory of acting he's been developing since his time at UVic. He is near completion of a book on his "Show and Tell" theory.

At heart, Show and Tell is a combination of human psychology and acting theory. Potter was very interested in Rudolphe Leban's *Analysis of Human Movement*, and Stanislavski's *Method of Physical Action*.

Leban's *Analysis* breaks human movement into four central components, Time, Space, Weight, Flow. Each is understood as a range – for example, Time runs from fast to slow, Space from direct to flexible.

Show and Tell's other main source, Stanislavski's *Method*, Potter sums up the one question: what are you doing? An actor should be able to answer that at any point during a performance.

The combination of Stanislavski's *Method* and Leban's *Analysis* came together beautifully for Potter during workshops at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

"I had these two actresses playing sisters. One had been cooped up in an attic, never seen a human in seven years, while the other had come to fetch her. Very straightforward conflict. On first reading, and first readings always suck, one actress screamed while the other monotoned. You know, like, okay, the audience gets the point.

So I said to the screaming actress, 'You are ripping off the top board of this table to beat in the head of your sister...'

I interrupt Potter, "Pretending to rip off the top board?"

"No, not pretending. You are ripping off the top board. And I say to the other sister, 'You are drawing circles lightly on the table.'" This way, instead of flat monotone, she'll be whispy, whimsical, evasive.

So we run the scene again and it was like, 'wow.' I ran out the hall to my teacher, 'YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!"

While *Never Swim Alone* was hinged on this theory, *The Bell-Ringer* is born directly of it.

"I became obsessed with the idea of elegant movement while dancing Swan Lake with A.B.T. [American Ballet Theater], I had a very minor part, but I remember watching a female dancer doing two or three minutes on pointe. Really high pointe. Like here's mine." Potter gestures a handwidth above his head.

"And here's hers," he gestures twice as high. "And then she'd come off-stage, 'OWW FUCK, OWW FUCK,' like some bow-legged hun – wouldn't it be great if the audience saw that? Seconds later, BAM, hand up, she's back on pointe, off towards the stage."

"I was in Paris, already thinking of Victor Hugo's story. I thought, 'Now, wouldn't it be interesting if the hunchback were a dancer?'

At the time I got a phone call from Greg: 'Leon, I got all this reactive computer music, what the hell should I do with it?'

"I'm thinking dancer, and he's got music – 'Greg, what do you think of doing an opera on the *Hunchback of Notre Dame*?'"

Corness, I imagine, on the phone in his Victoria apartment, "Sure," or "Awe-some," or something enthusiastic, while sitting in the middle of a pile of disassembled burglar alarm equipment.

Perhaps his computer beeped. Or moaned forlorn fog horns. Or screamed.

Reactive music is what you get when you connect a computer full of sounds and music to burglar alarm equipment. The stimuli from the motion detectors triggers various noises from the computer.

As a pre Bell-Ringer experiment, Potter brought Corness' reactive music to a run of one-acts in Vancouver.

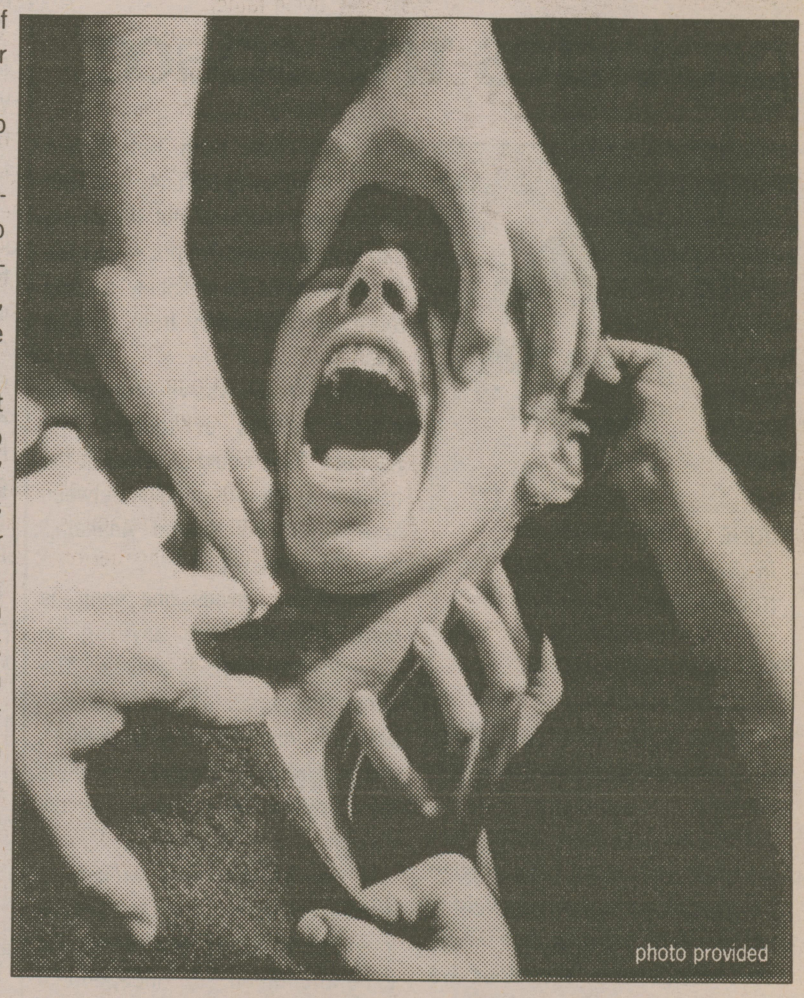

photo provided

"Greg just showed up a few hours before and plugged himself in. Then the one-acts started and everything went haywire." A normal soundtrack is like a piece of the set – it stays still. Whereas Corness' reactive music would bounce off the actor's sounds, on this evening confounding them, and upstaging them.

"One lady had this moment where she screamed this long piercing howl. The first night the music went nuts – sounded like a train of bathtubs getting derailed – she loved it.

The second night, when her scream came, though, the music didn't do a thing. Maybe a small gurgle. So she screamed louder, trying to get it to start up. Still nothing, but she kept trying."

Trying to adapt *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* into a three act, four person show with no set and minimal costumes takes a bit of fiddling, of course.

"The play is small – four actors alone in the dark, no set, almost no costumes. Greg's music makes it seem bigger."

Instead of letting Corness wire some stuff up on *Bell-Ringer*'s performance night, Corness came to every rehearsal from the very beginning, hence the half man of this four and a half person show.

"He had no hand in pegging the piece 'Epic Minimalism.' It was actually one of the actors – one day during rehearsal Jonathon Teague exclaimed, "You know what we've got here, guys? We've got epic minimalism."

The Bell-Ringer opens Jan. 12 in the Belfry's Arts Centre Studio, and runs until Jan. 15. Tickets are $10 students/seniors, otherwise $12. Show starts at 8 p.m. each night.

Make a Scene at the NTS!

Photo: Robert Etcheverry

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This cd kicks ass.

I have to admit, I love June of 44 and I have been following them for a while now.

But it's not just their music, that can't be it. They don't have enough of a static style to lie resolutely in any one genre. Most of their music eludes categorizing altogether. It's bound by images of sailing and running and fragmented conversations.

In the fishtank is an afterthought of something missed in the transition between June of 44's two previous albums, *Four Great Points* and *Anahata*.

Four Great Points saw the band moving away from the more riotous levels of screaming and dissonance. There was more experimentation with electronic sound and entirely instrumental pieces. The music was great, but the album itself lacked a sense of completion.

Anahata was both better and worse. It achieved the unity that *Four Great Points* lacked, but the music had lost its power. I'm not saying the cd sucks, but I'd definitely say it's more difficult to play from start to finish.

In the fishtank was recorded after a few months of touring with Anahata. "One could consider in the fishtank as the missing link between *Four Great Points* and *Anahata*," says the cd insert.

The music, minus one song, is quite different from anything on either of the previous albums. The songs "Pregenerate" and "Generate" set the tone as roughly mellow, calmly anxious. "Degenerate" ends the cd with a soft and quivering conclusion.

In the fishtank is a project of Konkurrent records in Amsterdam intended to record expression and experimentation of independent bands touring in Holland. Six bands were given 20 to 30 minutes of recording time to do whatever they wanted. The product from each band was recorded as a separate album and each one is called *In the fishtank* – June of 44 is "Fish Six." Most of the bands worked together on this production and so their styles are present on each "Fish." Other bands in the series are NoMeansNo, Guv'ner, Tassili Players, Snuff and Tortoise + the Ex.

Local bands get national coverage

BY JULIUS DAVIES

Victoria's second Radiosonic Showcase will be bringing together Velvet, Buttless Chaps and Special Guests this Friday night at Vertigo for a live CBC radio broadcast.

Dave Gowans, of the Buttless Chaps, can't wait to hear the other two bands. "I don't get to see a lot of shows because I'm either playing, or if not, then I'll prefer to spend the evening at home. I saw Velvet once, as a three-piece, years ago. Keyboards, Trumpet, DJ – pretty psychadelic. I've never seen the Special Guests myself, but two of the other band members saw them and said it was really good."

Velvet share the spotlight, January 4. photo provided

Radiosonic is CBC's Canadian rock show, but instead of playing more Alanis and Gowan, they focus on smaller alternative bands a listener is not too likely to hear on other radio stations. Last year, with the grand opening of CBC in Victoria, Radiosonic did a feature on Victoria bands at The Limit. Over the months that followed, segments of that night were aired all across Canada.

Velvet's lead singer, Kabu, hasn't seen the Buttless Chaps, but his guitarist, fighting for a pre-gig shower in the background, yells towards the phone that Buttless sound 'Like a bunch of cowboys on crack!'

"They're extremely nice people, though," says Kabu.

Of the Special Guests, Kabu says, "They've been opening for us for years. Total pricks, but great songs. 'Poppy,' Pop-rock, not really angsty. Very tight, good melodies, good song-writing. You can tell Adam [Special Guest's guitarist] he's been copping my style and I'm gonna kick his ass."

Special Guest's keyboardist Piers Henwood, though, has seen all the other acts playing with him this Friday night.

"The Buttless Chaps have a new alternative country sound. I really like them. Velvet – I see them often. They're actually pretty much a traditional band: singer, bass, guitar, congas, but for drums they've got 2 DJs instead of a kit."

Special Guests is the only band this Friday night who played Radiosonic's show at The Limit last year. Henwood received a surprising response shortly after the show,."A few weeks later I got a call from this kid in Detroit! Detroit is pretty close to the border, so CBC came through on his radio. He heard us play, called CBC in Toronto, somehow got my number, and bought our cd."

Special Guests formed three years ago, as something fun to do over the summer.

Henwood recalls, "Our first gig ever was a little strange. My cousin, who's also in the band, was still in highschool, so we played his highschool dance. I was 23, playing to all these teeny-boppers."

They recently were signed by Attic Records; they finished their first record at Mushroom Studios in Vancouver last Sunday night.

Velvet formed four years ago, although many of their group have played together forever. Before being Velvet, members were known as Souled Out, and before that, Out of Nowhere. A highlight in Velvet's career was opening for the Chemical Brothers last year.

Victoria's extra Special Guests. Photo submitted.

"We got to see them naked in the change-rooms," although Kabu also claims Velvet were squeegeeing car windscreens at Yates and Government last year during the Radiosonic show. "It was a tough time for the band."

Buttless Chaps, who played their first gig two years ago, are the youngest band this Friday. They formed at a solo show Dave Gowans put on – he asked some friends to play, and they stayed. A bit later the band noticed that they lacked a bass player, so Dave tries to keep lowish on his guitar, and their keyboard player helps out a bit down there, too.

"We got some electronic drumming equipment for a Hallowe'en show in October – 80s theme. That's also been helping out."

So with tickets only $6 in advance, and students not having too many term-papers due the next week, Victoria's second Radiosonic Showcase sounds like it will be a great show. MuchMusic is even rumoured to be planning a pop-in with some video cameras for their program MuchWest.

"The sad thing," says Henwood "is that you can never include every good Victoria band in just one night. Velvet, us, and the Buttless Chaps are by no means the only three bands in Victoria right now, though it may end up seeming that way to the rest of Canada."

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Vikes basketball at the millennium

BY ANGELA SWAN

All of the hype for an exciting Y2K was represented at the men's basketball Millennium Tournament. The games were held at the McKinnon Gym on December 27, 28 and 29. The competition and performances were outstanding with the Vikes winning two out of their three games.

In their first game against Concordia University, fourth-year forward Aaron Buckham scored 14 points for the Vikes with nine aggressive rebounds. Tension was high as the lead changed 11 times throughout the first half of the game. The Vikes came out on top by the end though, with a final score of 88-77.

UVic had a second victory the following night in a game against McMaster University, a team ranked seventh in the CIAU. During this game it would be third-year guard Keith Bustard to flaunt his talent, nailing 25 points with seven rebounds and four assists to pull off the shocking upset with a lopsided final score of 92-76.

It was not for a lack of skill or talent that the third game, held on Dec. 29, resulted in a loss for the Vikes against Concordia University. Once again veteran Keith Bustard led his team as he scored 21 points in the final game.

The tournament not only represented the strength and competitive edge that the Vikes have become known for, it also signified a reunion of former teammates Keith Bustard, Etienne Orr-Ewing and Sandy Bisaro. All three played together for the Kitsilano Blue Demons, winning back-to-back provincial high school championships in 1996 and 1997. Bisaro's appearance in the final game of the tournament was the first time the threesome have played together while representing the Vikes.

The women's team has also been on an extended winning streak lately. At the University of Alberta Hoop Fest Tournament, held from Dec. 27 to 29, the Vikes swept all three games. The team beat the University of Toronto on the 27, McMaster on the 28 and Concordia on the 29. Veteran player Janet McLachlan played exceptionally well, receiving the MVP for the tournament.

We don't depend on just one or two players. Everyone works very hard together as a unit.

The women are currently number one in the country and have held the top spot since October.

"We have a very balanced team," said head coach Kathy Shields. "We don't depend on just one or two players. Everyone works very hard together as a unit and because of this we have a strong winning background with experience and an exceptionally conscientious team."

The only new addition to the squad from last year's team is 5'11' post Krystal O'Byrne. According to Shields, O'Byrne has been practicing hard and well. The goal is to have her as an active player in the near future.

"She has great patience and work ethic," said Shields. "We have a veteran team and she has come into that with very good team interaction."

The team will be going through many changes next season when three of the fifth year players and four of the fourth year players reach the end of their terms.

Up next for both Vikes teams is a homestand against newcomers to the Canada West conference, the Trinity Western Spartans on Jan. 14 and 15.

Facing the competition

Lethbridge Pronghorn standout Danny Balderson shoots for the top of the CIAU record books.

BY CRAIG BATTLE

Southern Alberta is a home to many things. Grain elevators. Alberta beef stocks. A dinosaur museum. But what most westcoasters don't know is that the lower half of the province is home to a strong Mormon culture, huge basketball tradition – and Danny Balderson.

He comes from a small town called Magrath (pop. 1,700) about half-an-hour south of Lethbridge, close to the Montana border. Balderson is 25, quiet, humble and lives on farm with his wife Tammy. He plays guard at the University of Lethbridge, and is nearing Richard Bohne's all-time CIAU scoring record.

And the record is not the only thing that Bohne and Balderson have in common. Bohne grew up in Raymond, a town just outside Magrath and just as small. Both players decided to take time out of their university basketball careers to accompany Mormon missions – Bohne to Brazil and Balderson to Jacksonville, Florida.

"I grew up watching him and idolizing him," said Balderson.

And Balderson seems to have wasted no time trying to catch him. After his first season at Lethbridge in 1993-1994, Balderson was recognized as rookie-of-the-year in both Canada West and in the CIAU.

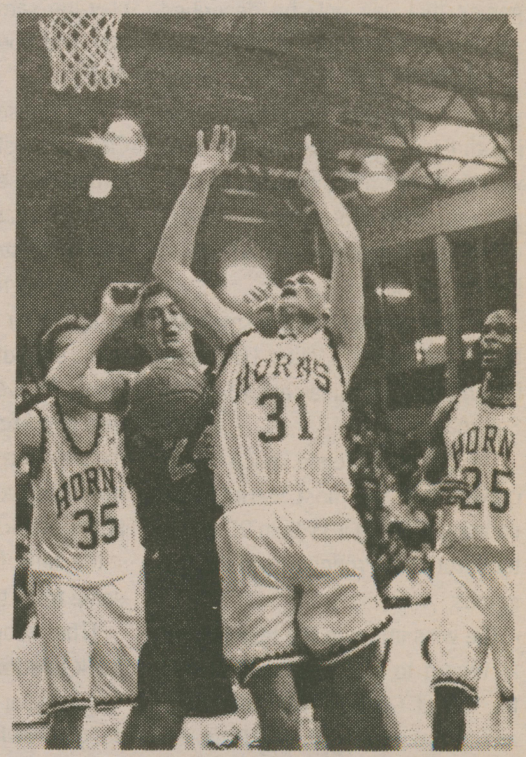
"He's going to be one of the all-time great players from the U of L," said Lethbridge head coach Dave Crook. "He's our first two-time all-Canadian, and he's going to be a three-time all-Canadian. It's the first time that's happened in our school history."

Balderson's started receiving attention early in his high school basketball career, particularly from Crook and the Lethbridge coaching staff.

"He was awesome," said Crook. "He was a great player starting in grade 10 – already a star in the high school league where we were."

He received a high school athlete's best chance to shine in grade 12, when he led his team to the Alberta provincial championships. Balderson's team took the gold in a field consisting of some teams whose high schools have larger populations than his town, such as Edmonton's Harry Ainley Secondary which holds more than 3000.

"Over the years the Southern Alberta small towns have been right up there in winning a lot of provincial championships," Balderson said. "It's kind of like a Hoosier story every time we go up."



Danny Balderson (#31) fights for an offensive rebound on Saturday night.

Martlet photo by Craig Battle

Balderson credits his small-town upbringing with encouraging his athletic efforts and his spirituality. The fifth-year student is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

In 1995, like Bohne, he chose to take time off school and his basketball career to go on a mission with the church to share the church's message about the Bible and the Book of Mormon.

"I was there two years and didn't play basketball hardly at all," said Balderson. "But it was really good for me – it strengthened my faith and I learned a lot."

But the two years off could have proved detrimental to his basketball career. Two years is a lifetime for some athletes.

"That first year back was really tough on me because I knew I could do it, but physically I wasn't there," he said. "It was really hard to get back into shape."

And when he got back, the season would become one of his best. Balderson led Canada West in scoring, averaging 22 points per game, and won the conference's player-of-the-year award.

"It took a little while but that first year back was a great season for me," he said.

And now, Balderson isn't looking for player of the year awards, or even the CIAU point record. He sees only one item of unfinished business.

"The only regret I might have is if we never make it to nationals," he said. "The last two years we've been left with a bitter taste in our mouths over the summer holidays. I'm hoping we can fix that."

Looking ahead, Balderson is unsure of his future. He has one year remaining for his teaching degree, but the owner of a professional team in England has invited him to camp for next year.

"Right now I'm just leaving my options open. Whatever happens, happens."

So with all of his accomplishments in mind, why isn't Danny Balderson common knowledge across the country? It's simple. That's the way he wants it.

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Vikes take the sting out of the prairie Pronghorns

BY CRAIG BATTLE

This past weekend the UVic men's and women's basketball teams treated their hometown fans to four games that can only be described as three blowouts and a barnburner.

The Vikes came out on top of the visiting Lethbridge Pronghorns, taking three of the four matches. The women's team continued rolling, while the men stole one from a talented and nationally second-ranked Lethbridge squad.

The past weekend was a small hurdle for the women's Vikes. UVic dominated 85-46 on Friday and 85-43 on Saturday.

The Vikes defense once again proved itself the most fearful in the country, allowing less than 90 points total from the Pronghorns in the two games.

The wins improve the team's overall record to 11-1, keeping them at the top of Canada West standings, and at the peak of the CIAU top ten poll.

"I thought our players did a decent job keeping our intensity up," said head coach Kathy Shields following the contests. "It's tough when you play the same team two nights in a row and you win the first night by 40."

Vike Lindsay Anderson was named Canada West player of the week following the set. Anderson scored 33 points against Lethbridge, and added 12 steals.

Friday night marked the barnburner upset for the men's Vikes as the team edged the Pronghorns by six points in overtime. Lethbridge carried a 15-point lead up until three minutes were left in the first half, when the Vikes surged to within four at the break.

The next frame saw more of the same from the Vikes.

"[The second half] was intense, back and forth the whole way," said second-year Vikes power forward Jason Crawford.

Lethbridge held a slim lead until Vike Allister Wilmott forced overtime hitting a clutch three pointer to tie the game with only 18 seconds left on the board.

The Vikes were nearly perfect in the five-minute overtime period, shooting 100 per cent from both the field and behind the three-point arc. The Vikes grabbed a lead and clung to it, winning the game 89-83.

Saturday night saw two very different teams. Lethbridge came out to prove that they deserve their number two ranking, hitting 53 per cent from the field, and 50 per cent from three-point land. The Vikes hit a mere 35 per cent of their field goals, and 28 per cent of their three pointers.

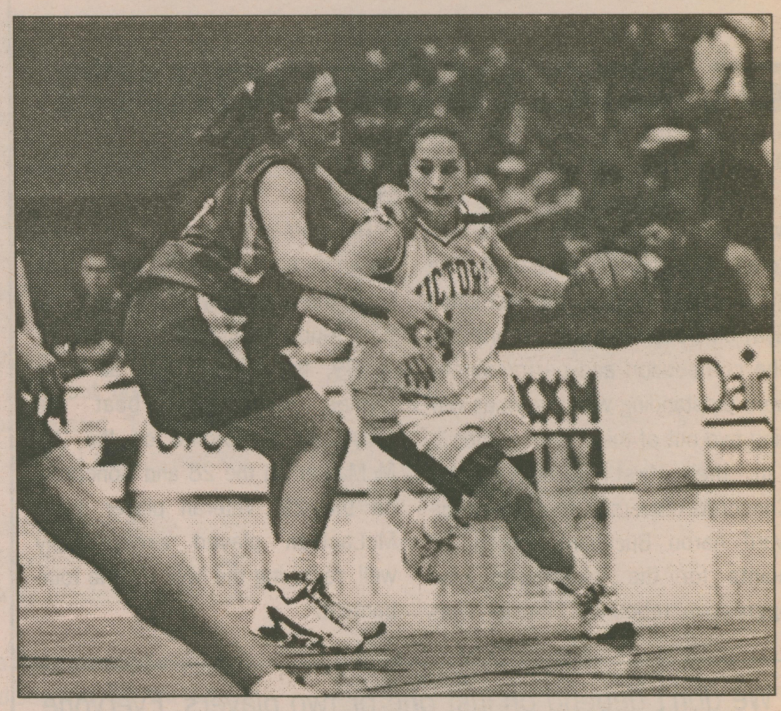
Lethbridge led by 20 at the half, en route to beating the Vikes 100-72.

Following the set, UVic head coach Guy Vetrie had mixed emotions.

"We got them once, so we should be happy with that," he said. "But what I'm not happy with is the way we went out Saturday night."

Lethbridge's Danny Balderson led all scorers in the two-game set with 47 points, while third-year guard Keith Bustard led the Vikes with 34.

Catch the Vikes in action at McKinnon this weekend against Trinity Western University.



Lindsay Brooke hits the lane in Friday night's game.
Martlet photo by Rachel Kiers

Canada climbs in international sevens rugby

BY DENA VANDALFSEN

Canada is moving up in the world of international rugby seven-a-side competition.

Under the direction of UVic head coach Doug Tate the team made it to the quarterfinals of the first sevens tournament in Dubai this season in early December and finished seventh overall.

The team is doing a little better in South Africa and is now ranked sixth in the world by the International Rugby Board (IRB). "Being in the top eight in the world is pretty good for Canada," said Tate.

Not since a early 1990's team made it to the semi-finals at a Hong Kong tournament has Canada done so well in international sevens competition.

The Dubai tournament had 16 teams. The top eight advance to the cup competition and the bottom eight play in the bowl competition. The whole idea is to be in the top eight and Canada did that.

Under new rules for sevens competition, Canada can bring 12 players to international tournaments instead of ten under the old rules. However, the two extra players can only play if another team member is injured for the rest of the tournament.

Tate has been credited with the success the team has been achieving since he took over coaching, but Tate turns it around and praises the players. "The players are pretty committed to work hard," said Tate. "When you have seven players on a full-size field, you have to have a commitment to fitness, and our players do."

Because the team does not have any high-profile individuals and only a couple of players with professional contracts, they have strength in being closer as a team.

"As they gain international experience, they keep together as a group," said Tate. "And that helps them on the field."

The team is comprised of players from Victoria and Vancouver, including Andrew Lauchlan, an openside flanker with the James Bay Rugby Club and a UVic education student, Jesse Frender, the Vikes new starting scrum half, and Jeff Williams, a UVic player who starts on the national sevens team.

Because the team is comprised of mainly local players they find it beneficial to get together for mini camps two or three days before leaving for a tournament.

The team gets back from South Africa on Jan. 16 and then heads off at the end of the month for tournaments in New Zealand, Australia and Fiji. Another trip sees them off to Malaysia, Hong Kong and Japan, and finally a trip to France and Ireland.

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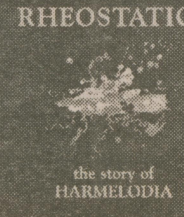

Win - A pair of tickets to their January 21st show and a free copy of their cd.
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A giant in our own backyard

BY CRAIG BATTLE

Bruce Wilson isn't tall. His 5'10" frame is short by national sporting standards. But as the man says, "You don't have to be a giant."

Wilson, the man we know best as the UVic men's soccer coach, will be one of the first 11 players to be inducted into the new national Soccer Hall of Fame in Vaughan, Ontario this coming May.

Before 1986, when he started coaching, he played soccer for UBC, and professional soccer for the Vancouver Whitecaps, Chicago Sting, New York Cosmos and Toronto Blizzard in the North American Soccer League. He also spent 13 seasons with the Canadian national team, playing 57 times in a Canadian jersey.

Bruce Wilson playing for the Canadian team against Guatemala at Royal Athletic Field in Victoria in 1985.

photo submitted

"I was very proud to represent our country, and it certainly taught me a lot," said Wilson. "What I learned most from playing for the country was appreciation for the country."

Wilson said that he and most of the other players on the team were unaware of the conditions in some of the Central American and Eastern European countries.

"Some of the Central American countries were scary, some were in civil wars," he said. "What we saw was basically there's poor and then there's ultra-rich, and there's nothing in between."

Ian Bridge, UVic's women's soccer coach, played alongside Wilson on Team Canada for several years. Bridge and Wilson, along with Bob Lenarduzzi, became permanent fixtures in the backline for the Canadian national team throughout the early eighties.

"That was a big part of our being a good team," said Bridge. "We kept the same line for about six or seven years."

Bridge says that Wilson has toned down since his playing days, but laughs at the assumption that Wilson is as laid back as his off-field demeanor.

"He was the most competitive guy I've ever met," said Bridge. "If he can race at it, win at it, bet on it, he wants to be on top."

Wilson says that he simply likes to win. And that's the attitude that he, as captain, helped propel Team Canada into the World Cup in 1986.

Canada had a playoff with Costa Rica and Honduras for the final spot in the tournament. The team met Honduras in the final at a stadium in St. John's, Newfoundland.

"It was a tremendous feeling, a tremendous Canadian crowd," Wilson said of the 5,000 fans who watched the 2-1 Canadian victory. "They really put us a goal ahead before we began."

Wilson also won a Soccer Bowl, the NASL championship, during his professional career with New York Cosmos. But he regrets the two back-to-back seasons with the Toronto Blizzard in which his team lost out in the finals.

While with the Cosmos, Wilson met his childhood hero Pele, the Brazilian soccer star whose poster is still proudly presented on the wall in Wilson's office.

"I've found the bigger the player, the nicer person," said Wilson. "And that certainly is true with Pele."

For his efforts, Wilson has been inducted into the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame, and has recently been named one of the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football's top players of all time. He was number eight on this list.

Wilson retired following the '86 World Cup and returned west with his wife Donna and two sons. Both are following in their father's footsteps. Derek, 16, plays on the under-17 provincial team, and both he and Colin, 14, are over six feet tall.

But, as Wilson has made evidently clear, it doesn't take a giant.

Sports Call

BY CRAIG BATTLE

John Rocker is an idiot. Anyone who would say what he said to a writer from *Sports Illustrated* (one of the most recognized sports magazines in the world) is a couple boards short of a house.

In that interview, the Atlanta Braves' star southpaw took an on-field rivalry just a few steps too far. It started during the past year's world series in which he taunted New York fans, "I just struck out your best hitter!" A couple months later, Rocker bashed the city by insulting minority groups ranging from gays to single mothers.

Rocker told *SI* that he would never play for a New York team because riding the city's number seven train is like riding through downtown Beirut. He described the subway ride as including "some kid with purple hair next to some queer with AIDS right next to some dude who just got out of jail for the fourth time next to some 20-year-old mom with four kids."

Okay, let's take a quick score. Number of friends made: zero. Number of enemies: everybody else. For those who don't know sports, that's Bad with a capital "B."

In reaction to public outcry, Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig called Rocker's remarks "unconscionable" and ordered the 25-year-old pitcher to undergo psychological tests. But Atlanta civic groups are demanding that Rocker be kicked out of baseball.

So why do the Atlanta Braves bother with this bigot? Why not toss him aside like a torn baseball? Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott was banned fom baseball following racist comments he made. Well maybe, just maybe, it's because he can throw that ball 100 miles an hour. No one can deny his fastball.

But back to the interview, Rocker also told *SI*, "The biggest thing I don't like about New York is the foreigners... I'm not a very big fan of foreigners... How did they get in this country?"

A rally has already been staged outside The Braves' Turner Field, consisting mainly of leaders of Atlanta civic groups representing Asian-Americans, African-Americans, Hispanics, gays, Christians and AIDS. activists. Michael Langford, president of Atlanta's United Youth-Adult Conference, said the groups would stage a fans' boycott if further action is not taken before the baseball season begins in April.

But the Braves will be sure to remind you that he's 225 pounds, 6'4" and his fastball – it's unstoppable. They'll say, "Who's going to give that up?"

During the interview, Rocker called a Black teammate a "fat monkey" and spat on a parking metre.

Two words: Fast ball. I guess that makes him exempt from the rules of everybody else.

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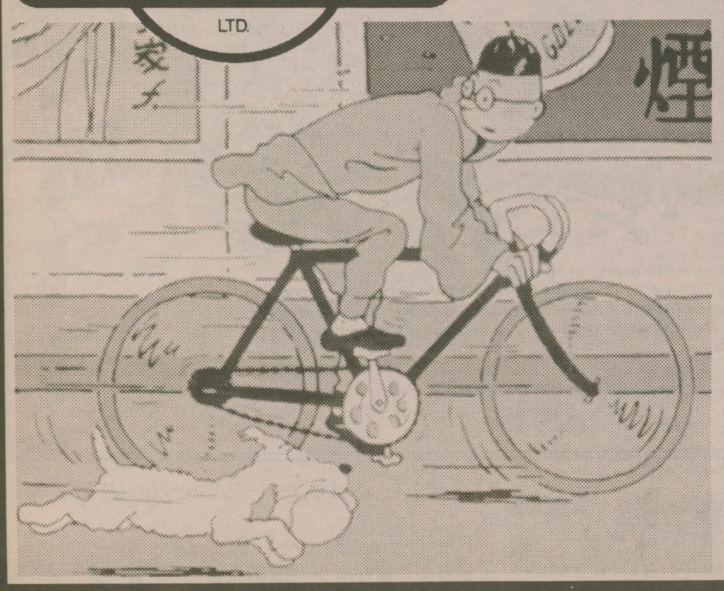

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on-campus

Want to learn more about Tibet and Human Rights? The Students for a Free Tibet are meeting this **Thursday January 13** at 5:00 p.m., room 110a in the SUB upper lounge. Everyone is welcome.

The Circle K club meets **every Wednesday**, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. in CLE C112. Come out and join us. Low commitment & volunteer projects. For more info contact rvcolson@uvic.ca

Be a convert. Be a Buttless Chaps fan! Go to the CBC RadioSonic event at Vertigo, Friday, January 14.

off-campus

Wisdom of the Dream – Carl Jung, 3 part series: **January 21**, 7:00 - 9:00, **January 22**, 10:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 3:00. Presented by the Community Arts Council at Sussex Place, 1001 Douglas, suite G6. $12 for the entire series. Please call Catherine Ellis at 386-5435 for information.

Canadian Club of Victoria presents Eric Sorensen, a CBC-TV Parliamentary Reporter, "Bringing the News to Canadians." Luncheon at The Princess Mary, 358 Harbor Road, **Friday January 21**, 12:00 noon. Members: $15, guests $18, year membership $30. For reservations call 370-1837.

Ancient Forest Conference (Vancouver Island). Presentations by scientists and environmentalists on conservation biology, tenure reform, eco-forestry, the WTO, SLAPP suits, anti-environmental violence, land claims, *sacred ecology, the Walbran Valley, Clayoquot* Sound. 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. UVic, SUB. Admission $5 - 10. To pre-register: 380-1293 or ancientforest@angelfire.com

Want to be a mountain biker who gives back to the community? Join South Island Mountain Bike Society (SIMBS), or go out every third Sunday to Hartland (The Dump), to help rebuild/construct trails. Call Greg Carmichael at 744-4125 or Jim Richardson at 383-7664 for more information.

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volunteer

A volunteer grant writer is needed for the Victoria School of Writing Society. Fundraising and grant writing experience is preferred but not necessary. Come out and get involved in Victoria's writing community. Interested? Questions? Call Jessica at 477-7817.

Want to make a difference in your community this year? Volunteers are needed at Recreation Integration Victoria to provide one-on-one assitance to people with disabilities while participating in a recreation or leisure pursuit. If you are able to make a commitment of 2 - 4 hours a week, or are interested in finding out more about our services, please call 477-6314.

crazy quotes

"Of all the words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: it might have been."

"It's confusing to wake up cliché, and go to bed alone. I don't want to hear your voice, even if it's only through a phone."

"I talk about freedom, you just talk about a flag."

"Touch not thy cat without thine gloves."

"Hurray for Hot Wheels."

"But hearts have reasons that reason does not know, and hearts continue to swing between trust and terror. All gods are born of fear."

"Textbooks are authoritarian beasts."

"I know myself, but that is all."

"My favourite children's size is 6X"

hey you!

There's a certain David I'd like to thank for his good humour, his willingness to perform the odd favour or two, and his patience with my rather scathing jokes. Where would I be without him and sushi with Sammy?

There's a certain Paul I'd like to fuck for all his good looks, his willingness to perform and his patience with my scathing hands.

Hey Rolf: Only four months late, but the co-op report's finally done. So, where are you driving *next* weekend?

Dan, the tuba-playing weirdo, stop calling me, don't sing to me and quit "accidently" bumping into me in town. You're creeping me out.

To anyone offended by the fucking . . . I don't care, so why do you?

To the goddess of whatever. that stuff you use in the bathroom really, really stinks. please stop using it. there are lots of other things that bug me about you, but my new years resolution is to like you. if i can do that, world peace is next.

Ging! (accompanied by an open hand on the forehead).

Hey Fantasia, I want you back like that hideous Take That song.

Attention Satan: please stop messing with my mind. It's just not fair anymore.

All religious clubs and organizations advertising on the billboards page must adhere to the following statement: "Everyone is welcome. We oppose discrimination on the basis of race, gender and sexuality."

billboard rates

students and clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/line
hey you!	$1/issue

JEWISH FESTIVAL OF FOODS

Join us at the
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE
Homemade Jewish Specialties,
Soups & Desserts
Tues. Wed. Thur. & Fri.
11:30am to 1:30pm
3636 Shelbourne St.
(across from the Fairway Market)
477-7185

The Karaoke Club

Book your next party!
Groups from 10 to 110
Free cake, balloons & personalized banner.

Free Appy's Friday's 5:30 PM Ample Free Parking Open 7 nights a week
1900 Douglas Street (above Paul's Motor Inn)
Website: www.islandnet.com/~karaoke
382-9231 No Cover!

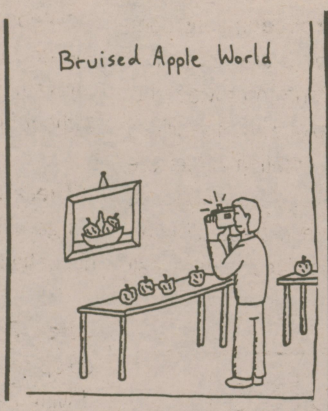
Chit Chat
Telephone Personals
250.405.7777
Live One 2 One Chat
Online Messaging
Voice Mail
Endless Encounters
1000's of Local Singles
A few reasons why...
It's so easy...
Meeting someone new doesn't have to be complicated, in fact it's never been easier! Chit Chat Personals helps connect thousands of Men and Women just like you everyday! Whether you're looking for Fun, Romance, or just someone to talk to, our service gives you the freedom and flexibility to choose from a wide variety of people online, while still maintaining your privacy,
It's easy! It's Fun! And it works! So what are you waiting for? Call Now!
FREE TO CALL

Local Gay Men are waiting in ...
THE MENS ROOM
•Live Chat • Messaging
•Voice Mail • Men!
(250) 405.7777

Stark Ravings

Mosquito Land

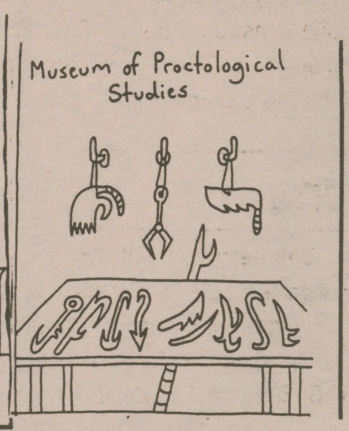
Bruised Apple World



Unpopular tourist attractions

North America's Grumpiest Family

Museum of Proctological Studies



THE NIPPLE FOUR EPISODE 40 N4

THIS BOOK SAYS PATRICIA ANGERED A FORTUNE TELLER
WE'D BETTER CHECK IT OUT.
WELL.
I THINK IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO GO IN MY CAR SINCE MINE IS FASTER THAN YOURS.
FASTER THAN MINE, KID? DO YOU WANT TO RACE OR SOMETHING?
LOOK, IT'S NOT IMPORTANT. WE'LL TAKE YOUR CAR.
NO! YOU HAVE INSULTED ME AND MY VEHICLE. NOW YOU MUST DEFEND YOUR HONOR...
AND RACE ME IN MY CAR!!
WHAT?
YOU WANT ME TO BE IN YOUR CAR? I DON'T GET IT? DON'T YOU WANT TO BE IN YOUR OWN CAR?
MY CAR? YES, I WILL BE IN MY CAR AS I RACE YOU IN MY CAR.
OK, SO WE ARE BOTH IN YOUR CAR FOR THE RACE BUT WHO IS DRIVING?
AND WHAT ABOUT MY CAR?
YOU ARE GOING TO RACE ME IN MY CAR!
THAT MAKES MORE SENSE BUT I'M JUST GOING TO DRIVE YOUR CAR VERY SLOWLY.
LISTEN! I WILL RACE YOU IN YOUR CAR!
SORRY.
I WILL RACE YOUR CAR IN MY CAR.
MY INSURANCE DOESN'T ACTUALLY COVER DRIVERS OTHER THAN MYSELF.
NOW THAT DEFIES PHYSICS!
OR MAYBE NOT! IS YOUR CAR SMALL? I HAVE ONE OF THOSE HUGE FOUR WHEEL DRIVE THINGS.
cbateman

ALL BACK ISSUES, AND MUCH MORE→http://persweb.direct.ca/nipple4

LEARN THE ART OF WRITING AND DRAWING GREAT COMICS

CHECK NEXT WEEK'S COMICS PAGE FOR WORKSHOP DETAILS, OR CALL: 477-7116 (ASK FOR TIM)

BRIAN FUKUSHIMA'S

COMICS FOR YOUR CHURCH

I CANNOT believe how boring this lecture is.
This group is so small that I feel rude - almost guilty about getting up and leaving..
But then again, this is post-secondary education. I'm paying to be here, or NOT to be there!
SNAP
Well, I guess it's time for my doctor's appointment.. Gotta get this PEN removed.
Sucker..

Visit Comics for Your Church on the Web at:
members.xoom.com/SimpleBrian
Come check out the all new "CFYC Choose Your own Adventure extravaganza" under the 'Leftovers' Link!

Eitutis & Associates

Optometrists

Dr. P. Arnold Eitutis
Dr. Cynthia A. Corbett
Dr. Victor J. Chin

201-3750 Shelbourne Street
(Corner of Shelbourne & Cedar Hill X Rd.)
Tel. 477-7771

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.,
Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

General eye and vision care by appointment only

Happy 2000!

- Bees Knees Hurricane Lamps 25% off
- One-of-a-kind hand painted glass platters 30% off
- Seasonal Merchandise up to 40% off
- Lots of fantastically funny new cards and buttons

Come in and laugh on us!

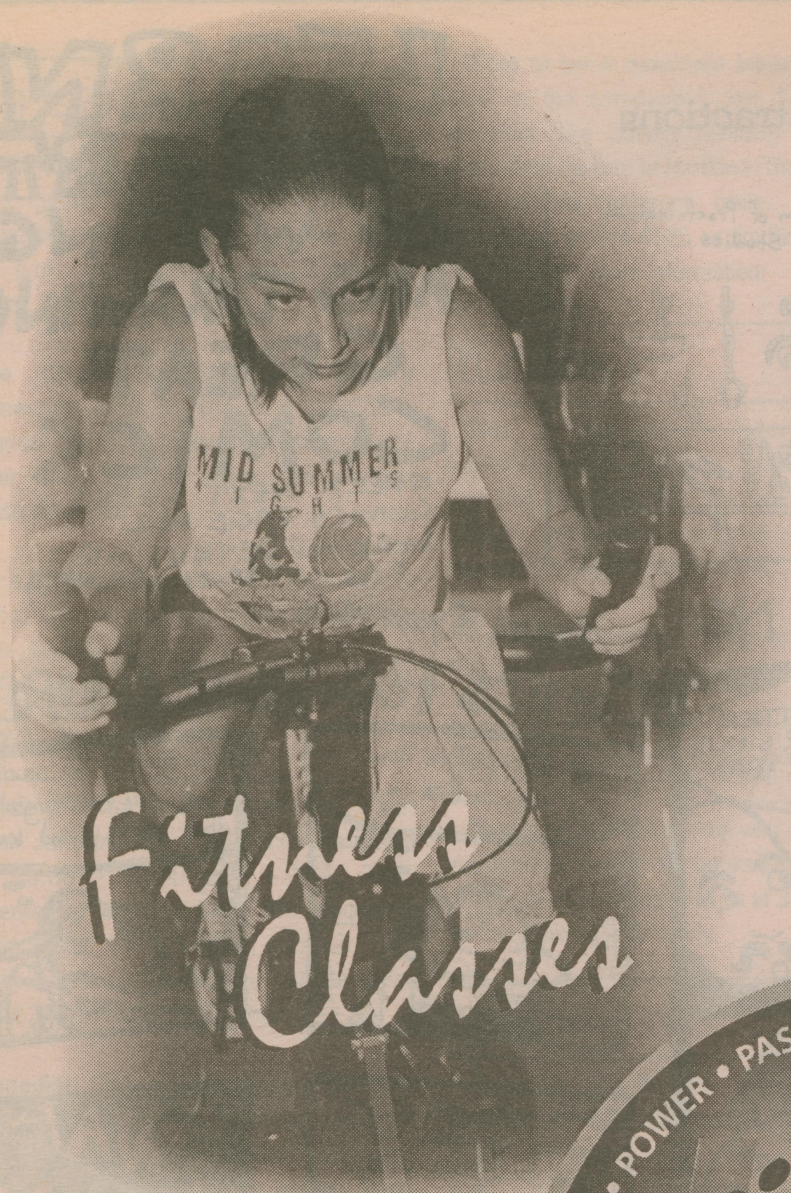
Calling All Cards
3629 Shelbourne St. (at Shelbourne Plaza) phone: 721-5660

COMICS Taste Great! Less Filling!

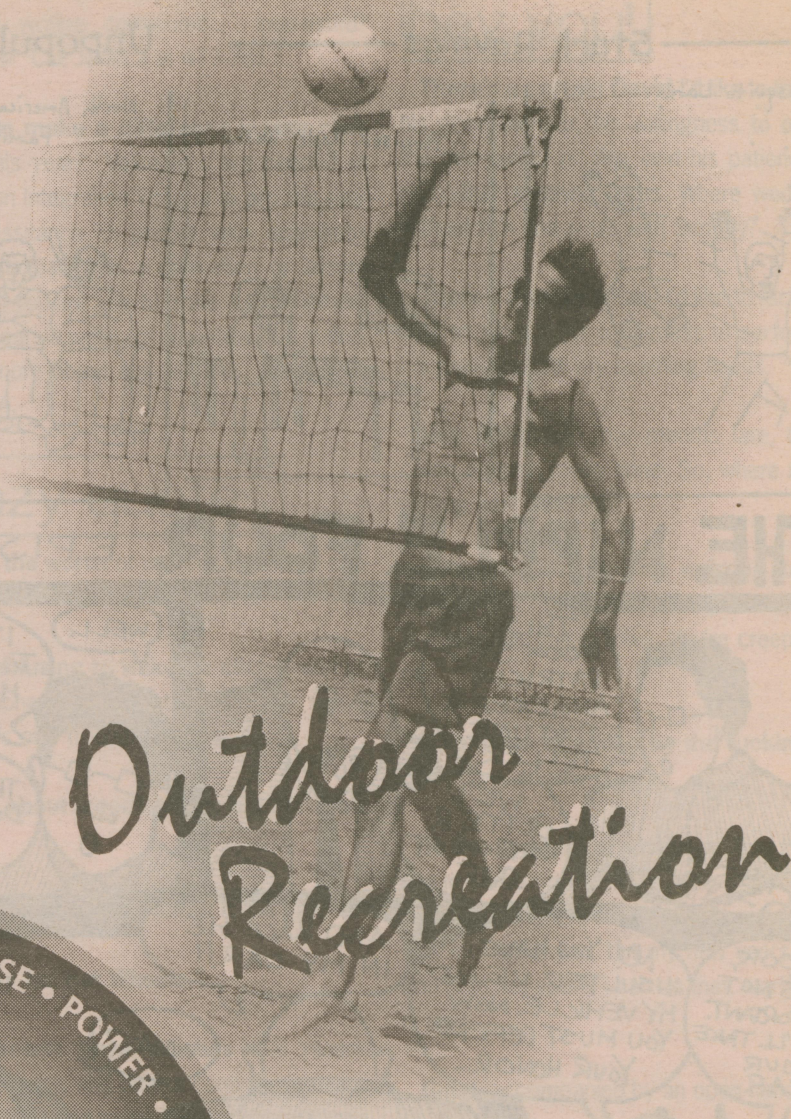
CURIOUS COMICS BOOKS & GAMES

631 Johnson St 384-1656

The Big Easy -
Victoria's newest Night Spot
Great tunes with our DJ. -Dancing til 2:00 am.
Thursdays - R & B Jam Night
Sundays - Karaoke Night
Specials Daily - Full appy Menu
Doors open daily at noon
123 Gorge Road East, Victoria. (250) 383-7545
Events sponsored by ... FAT Tuesdays PUB • GRILL • LATE NIGHT



Fitness Classes

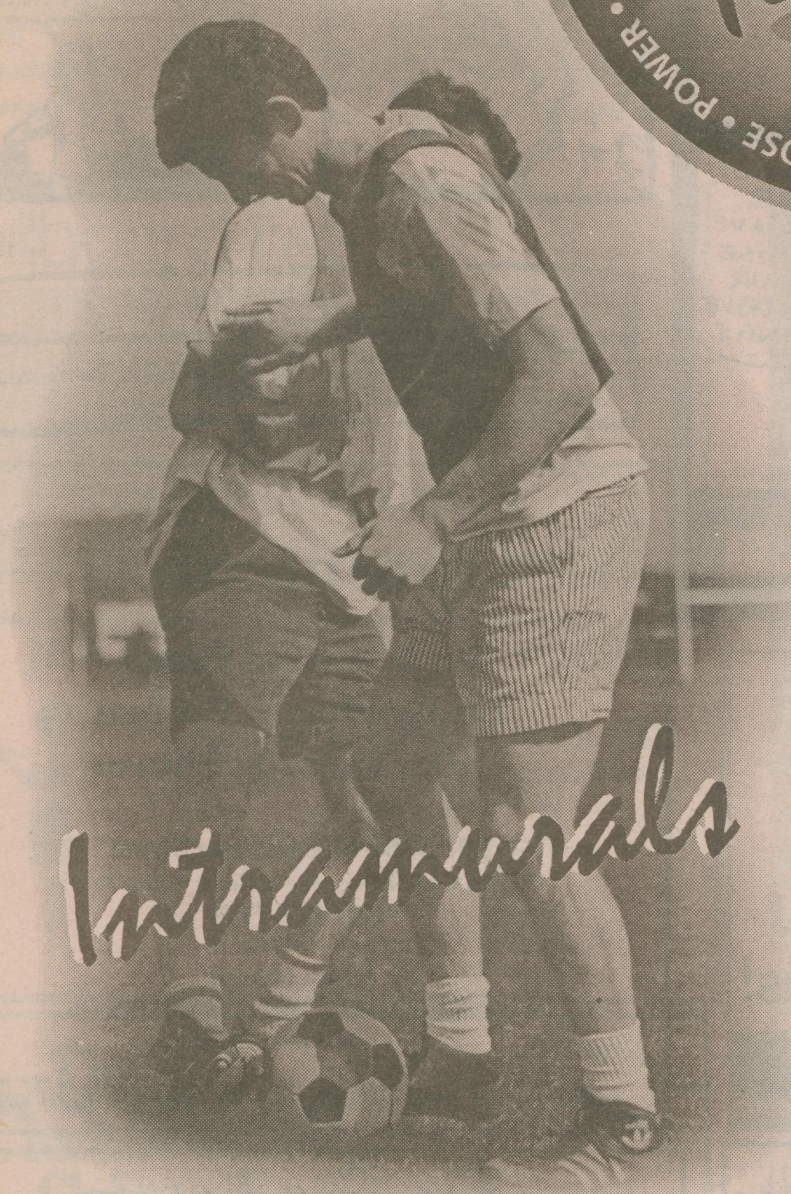


Outdoor Recreation

PASSION • PURPOSE • POWER • PASSION • PURPOSE • POWER • PASSION • PURPOSE • POWER • PASSION • PURPOSE • POWER •

UVIC recplus

721-8406



Intramurals

Strength Training

For additional information and scheduling, call 721-8406
or visit our website www.uvic.ca/recplus